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SPENDER WARNING ON JAPAN'S RESURGENCE

Australian concern over the terms of the peace treaty FEELING OF INSECURITY

Manila, March 27.

The Australian Minister for External Affairs, Percy Spender, in a speech to the Philippine Senate today, warned against the possible resurgence of Japan as a militaristic Power and demanded a voice for the nations that helped defeat Japan in the drafting of the peace treaty with that country.

Mr. Spender, who addressed the Upper Chamber for 20 minutes, said: "We are very much concerned about the kind of peace we are going to have with Japan. We want to see that there is not resurrected a militaristic Japan."

By reason of American occupation, he said, Japan is being restored. "The occupation is doing a good job in Japan but we have some misgivings."

Guerilla activity in South China

The Central Southern Military-Political Affairs Commission yesterday publicly admitted that anti-Communist guerrilla bands are operating in various parts of Kwangtung and Kwangsi, according to reports from Canton.

The areas include Luk Fung County, big rice producing coastal region midway between Hong Kong and Swatow. It is here where the Chinese Communists made their first attempt to set up a Sovietised administration in 1920-27, under the leadership of Peng Pai, son of the then wealthiest farmer in the county.

The Commission's statement said that the guerrilla force in Luk Fung County called it the "Long Haired Party." Its members had raided Government granaries, instigated revolts, murdered tax collectors, and supported opposition to taxes.

Three of the ringleaders of the party have been arrested, added the statement.

The statement said that similar acts were carried out in other areas by the anti-Communist guerrillas.

LABOUR MP DIES

London, March 27.
Mr. F. A. Cobb, Labour member of Parliament for Beighouse and Spenborough, died today, reducing the narrow Labour majority in the new House of Commons to three.

It was the second death in 10 days of a Labour member in the new House elected on February 23. The by-election to fill the West Dunbartonshire seat vacated by the death of Mr. Adam McKinnay on March 10 has been tentatively set for April 17.

Mr. Cobb won his seat in the February general election by a majority of 2,132 over Mr. W. E. Woolley, a National Liberal—an adjunct of the Conservative Party.—United Press.

The Weather

At 9:00 GMT (3 p.m. HKST) the deep depression now centred over the Pacific E. of Japan continues to move NEwards. To the N. of the depression a shallow high pressure system extends from Korea to the Aleutians. Slight weather and difficult sailing over the China sea.

Today's Forecast: Light variable winds, cloudy and misty with scattered fog patches at first, becoming fair by the afternoon, continuing warm.

Yesterday's weather:—

Maximum 82.5 deg. F. Min. 61.5 deg. F. Rainfall 0.2 in. Wind 10-15 mph. Humidity 75%. Clouds 3-4. Visibility 10-15 miles. Barometer 30.0 in. Hg. at 9:00 a.m. at sea level.

IS THIS A FAKE?



If this picture a fake? Mr. Harold Stassen, President of the University of Pennsylvania and former candidate for the Republican nomination for the U.S. Presidency, says it is. An official picture issued by the Russian Government, it purports to show Stalin voting in the Lenin election district of Moscow a fortnight ago, during the elections to the Supreme Soviet. Mr. Stassen, however, says the picture is at least 10 years old. The implied suggestion is that the Soviet Dictator is dead or seriously ill.—(Associated Press Photo).

Fate of British ship rests with military court

Taipei, March 27.

The fate of the British freighter Caduceus, under arrest in Taiwan since February 16, is to be decided by a Chinese military court. Its decision will be final.

The Caduceus, of 4,446 gross tons, was detained just as she was about to sail to Hong Kong from Kaohsiung, in South West Taiwan, after her first trip to this Nationalist island.

Her crew consisted of four British nationals and 63 Chinese.

Nationalist authorities arrested the ship on suspicion that she had passed on or was about to pass on Communist ownership.

The action was taken after several Chinese members of the crew produced cards showing they belonged to a Communist seamen's union.

The four British officers were placed under arrest at first, then under ship arrest.

They were the Australian skipper, Captain Ronald Hay Conway, of 36 Halsford Street, Hurstville, New South Wales, Australia; the Chief Officer, John William Layfield of Swansea, Wales; the Chief Engineer, Norman S. Halliday of 41 Salisbury Avenue, Preston, North Sheldes, England; and the Second Engineer, George James Groskop, of Barry, Glamorgan, Wales.

Mr. Conway was given permission by the authorities to come to Taipei last week to submit a report to the British Consul, Edward T. Bligg, and is due to return to Kaohsiung on March 29.

He has also discussed the case with the Governor of Taiwan, Mr. K.C. Wu.

After being refitted there, she sailed for Keelung, where she arrived on February 4 and discharged part of her cargo. The rest was discharged at Kaohsiung, where she arrived on February 12.

She never traded with any Communist port, Mr. Conway declared.—Associated Press.

Quirino statement

The President, commenting on Mr. Spender's statement, during lunch in Baguio on Sunday, said the Philippine constitution prohibits war as a means of settling the country's differences with other nations. But he added, the country knows what to do in case it is threatened.

President Quirino told newsmen that he holds on to his original plan to make the proposed South East Asia Union a cultural, economic and political organization; he added, however, that the nature of the proposed organization will depend upon the member nations.

—United Press and Associated Press.

Mr. Spender declined to discuss the Philippine-sponsored South East Asia and Western Pacific Union but praised President Quirino's vision in advocating such collaboration between the countries of this part of the globe.

President Quirino had made suggestions regarding the union which he would convey to his Government when he returns to Australia.

Liaison with Asia

Mr. Spender told the Senate that his conference at Baguio with President Quirino had been most profitable and he believed that in the not distant future they will prove fruitful for the peace and prosperity of South East Asia.

He refused to elaborate later and said he will not hold any further press conferences before leaving tomorrow for the Australian territories where he will leave his plans for his inspection trip.

It was evident from Mr. Spender's Senate address that the Conservative administration which recently replaced the Labour Government in Australia plans to seek close liaison with South East Asia nations in meeting Pacific problems.

"Tiger balm king's" version of foreclosure in Canton

Singapore, March 27.

The "Tiger Balm King," Mr. Aw Boon-haw, said here today that he was much surprised and regretted what had happened but he was not at fault and so his conscience is clear.

During an interview by the Singapore Chinese newspaper, "Sin Chew Jit Poh," in connection with a Hong Kong report that the Canton authorities had foreclosed his Canton office.

Giving his version of the incidents which led to the misunderstanding between him and the Canton authorities, Mr. Aw told the "Sin Chew Jit Poh" that he bore no ill-will against the People's Government and that, as a merchant, he had never refused to pay any tax that was his due.

Mr. Aw, however, pointed out that the Canton Municipal Government was not collecting the tax from him and that he had been forced to pay it to the People's Government.

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Tong's accounts, it simply made an estimate and imposed the tax at will.

Mr. Aw declared that this made it impossible for him to fulfil his obligations and the allegation that he had refused to pay the tax was not at all true.

Mr. Aw then told the "Sin Chew Jit Poh" that the Canton Government recently sent someone to see him in Hong Kong and wanted him to subscribe to 10,000 units of Victory Bonds.

CHAMBER CRITICAL OF PRICE CONTROL

Comment on continued price control, described as one of the relics of the old regime, on the method of carrying on trade with Japan, and on Government's proposal to increase taxation, was made at yesterday's annual general meeting of the Hong Kong General Chamber of Commerce.

Mr. P. S. Cassidy, Chairman, said that many merchants found price control a thorn in the flesh and would like to see the last of it.

Mr. S. Storm Jorgensen, who seconded the Chairman's report, said that the present way of doing business with Japan carries such undesirable features as a black-market in so-called Japan dollars in addition to subsidising of export goods at the expense of import commodities.

In a separate statement on proposed increased taxation, Mr. Cassidy said that it is generally agreed that any increase would not only add to the present unfairness but that it would lead to still further evasion.

"If a division is challenged on the Second Reading of the Bill, the fact that there was opposition from the Unofficial Members will be brought to the attention of the Secretary of State," said Mr. Cassidy.

He added: "But I feel myself that it is useless to expect any sympathy with our protest against higher taxation, either from the British Government or from the British voter. Our complaint is a domestic one for which we can only obtain a remedy by convincing the local administration that they have adopted the wrong course."

"Whether what was said in the debate last Wednesday will lead to Government dropping its present proposals we shall know in 48 hours' time, but I am not very hopeful," said Mr. Cassidy.

Proposing the adoption of the annual report and accounts, Mr. Cassidy said: "Law and order and a stable currency are the main contributions to our good fortune, but these might have been in jeopardy if it had not been for the prompt despatch of reinforcements by the British Government to strengthen the defence of the Colony."

"We must also acknowledge the service rendered by the Hong Kong Government, both in its administrative and technical branches, which despite the handicap imposed by shortage of staff has coped manfully with many difficult problems, not the least of which are those directly arising from the grossly overcrowded state of the Colony."

Abnormal conditions

"Externally our trade has been subjected to abnormal conditions which have required a good deal of ingenuity to overcome. But the history of the trade of Hong Kong clearly shows that the abnormal is the normal for the periods when merchandise flows unimpeded backwards and forwards between this port and the hinterland have been few and far between."

"The vast potentialities of the China market have been for 200 years or more the lure of Western traders, a lure which seems to be as remote today as it was when the factories of Canton were set up. I think that most of us here realise that there is little to be gained by taking the long view where trade with China is concerned and that the best course is to seize opportunities as they present themselves."

"That course has led to the substantial development of our trade with various parts of South East Asia as well as with Japan, Formosa and Korea, and that we are no longer dependent on the China market for the greater part of our entrepot trade. And although business must always be our main function, it is highly desirable to encourage the development of our local industries for they are likely to play an increasingly important part in our economy."

"The trade statistics for the past year bear witness to the astounding increase in value of the goods which have been passed in and out of the port, but they give the conception of what has been derived from the services rendered in handling, storing, despatching, insuring and financing this great volume of merchandise."

"So far our commercial machinery has stood up to the extra strain placed upon it by the concentration in this port of cargo which in the ordinary course of events would not have been discharged or loaded here if Shanghai and other China ports had been open to ocean shipping."

"The question of storage accommodation was giving concern for most part of the year and during recent weeks the problem has assumed an acute form. The resources of the public godowns companies have been taxed to the limit, and although many of our members have their own godowns it looks as if much more will have to be done by others in supplementing existing storage space."

FRENCH C-IN-C TO VISIT HK

General Marcel M. Carpentier, Commander-in-Chief, French Far East Forces, will visit the Colony at the end of the week for a few days. He will be accompanied by Madame Carpentier and they will be the guests of the Governor.

Although the General's visit is private he will take the opportunity of touring the New Territories and visiting a few units.

General Carpentier, who is 54 years old, entered the Saint-Gyr Ecole Special Militaire, the French Military Academy, in 1912. He was commissioned the following year.

During World War I he served with the Infantry in Belgium and saw action at Marne, Aisne and the Vosges. He was awarded 10 decorations, including the Chevalier of the Legion of Honour and the Croix de Guerre with five citations.

Between the wars he had several important appointments including a tour of duty with the French Military Mission to Brazil.

Holding staff appointments under General Weygand in 1940, and later, Command of a regiment in Tunisia, General Carpentier was appointed Chief of Staff to General Juin in 1945 with the rank of General. He held several staff appointments with the French Expeditionary Force in Europe and succeeded to the command of the 2nd French Division. He assumed his present appointment last year.

Among the General's many foreign decorations are Commander of the British Empire and the American Legion of Merit.

RAF IN ACTION

Singapore, March 27.
Waves of Royal Air Force bombers, including heavy Lincolns, today pounded for 30 minutes an intensive area of Malayan jungle known to be hiding a terrorist concentration.

The attack was covered by low cloud. The jungle was strafed by machine-gun fire. The bombers struck in the Pahang district of Negri Sembilan, in the Southern Malay States. —Reuters.

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Personalia

Nine Europeans, including a two-and-a-half year old girl, left Hong Kong for Timian yesterday by the ss. Hupeh. They are Mr. and Mrs. W. Wadde, Professor and Mrs. J. A. Richards, Mr. and Mrs. E. Wheen, Miss N. K. Wheen, and Messrs. C. O. Soltau and E. Alken.

Other passengers who boarded the ss. Hupeh yesterday for Timian included Mr. and Mrs. J. G. Cotesworth and two children and Messrs. S. Rellon, Shiu Suk-woo and Kim Jun-shok.

Mr. and Mrs. E. A. R. Newton left Hong Kong for Genoa by the ss. Automedon yesterday.

Captain W. Bamra and Mr. C. H. Blake left for the United Kingdom yesterday by the ss. Automedon.

Messrs. F. W. Allan, J. H. Lar-char, E. E. Pascalis and R. Serra were among those who left the Colony for Saigon by Air France yesterday.

Week-end departures from the Peninsula Hotel included Mrs. P. Coburn, Mrs. A. J. Hill, Major and Mrs. J. D. H. Chapman, Mr. and Mrs. H. D. Balda-ville, Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Blair, Messrs. J. E. Poulton, R. M. Thompson, A. Kitching, G. Graham, S. C. Norris, E. Cathie, J. F. Watkins, E. Moller, G. Fletcher, N. White, J. A. McConnell, S. M. Keeney, and M. V. Berg.

Among the new week-end arrivals at the Peninsula Hotel were Miss J. Locastro, Mrs. M. A. Moyles, Mrs. J. Farron, Mr. and Mrs. G. P. Rastah, Messrs. G. H. Hicks, G. Stern, J. S. Yen, Y. H. Tu, J. H. Marchal, E. Harris, J. H. Cooper, M. F. Webb, W. F. Roberts, F. S. Bush, W. R. O'Brien, and W. Barker.

RO FINE ON
TRAFFIC CHARGE

For driving car No. 2189 without a valid licence on Saturday evening, Peter Brant, 30-year-old Revenue Officer, was fined \$150 by Mr. Hin-shing Lo at Central yesterday.

Inspector Wheeler said that about 5 p.m. Brant borrowed the car from the manager of the White Horse Bar in Lockhart Road. He told the man that he held a licence. The car was driven by the defendant to the Victoria Barracks and then later taken to the New York Bar.

About 9 p.m. Yuan Yun-kam noticed that the car was damaged and as he was arguing with the defendant about the payment of \$50 for the hire of the car, he (Inspector Wheeler) arrived on the scene, and on finding that Brant had no licence to drive placed him under arrest.

Brant, who appeared in Court late, said that he had been on duty and asked to be excused. He pleaded guilty to the charge, a fool after having a few drinks. He told the Court that he would soon be leaving the Colony for home as he was quitting the Revenue Department and could not find another job in Hong Kong.

He said that he was a native of Manchester and his wife and daughter were in England. In finding him Mr. Lo said that it was a very serious offence to keep the Court waiting. His offence against the traffic regulations was also very serious, but in view of the fact that he would soon be leaving for home he was being dealt with leniently.



General Sir John Harding, KCB, CBE, DSO, MC, Commander-in-Chief, East Land Force, and Air Marshal F. J. Fogarty, DFC, AFC, Commander-in-Chief, Far East Air Force, arrived from Singapore by a special Royal Air Force aircraft yesterday. Photo shows Air Marshal Fogarty chatting with an RAF officer at Kai Tak after the G-10 aircraft, General Harding is to the right of the Air Marshal. (China Mail photo.)

Communist ships
in HK harbour

(By Our Harbour Reporter)

The position of the Communist-flagged ships in Victoria Harbour—13 of the China Maritime Navigation Steamship Company and four of the Chinese Maritime Customs—is still obscure.

Hitherto, no plans have been drawn up by the respective organisations for future operation of their vessels, all of which are at present laid-up.

A senior official of the CMC stated last evening that the local office is awaiting instructions from Peking.

He denied vernacular reports that personnel of the four remaining CMC cruisers in port are being sent to Shumshu for training. "The men have been working on board the vessels all along," he added.

The CMCN, which switched allegiance early this year, also has no plans for its laid-up ships. Four, however, have been offered to the local public as floating godowns. So far, only one is being utilised; the others are still waiting to receive cargo.

According to a responsible official of the CMCN, one or more Nationalist naval craft are patrolling outside Hong Kong waters, lying in wait for any Red-flagged ships to leave Hong Kong. He asserted that he had been informed on several occasions of the existence of prowling Nationalist warships.

The CMCN official declared that if it was not for this, the CMCN could have sent South some of the idle ships in port to resume the Straits-Indian run.

Air danger

With the presence of hostile aircraft over the South China region, the predicament of the local Chinese Communist organisation has been aggravated to such an extent that it has even been declared dangerous to send a ship flying the Red emblem to the Pearl River.

The Communist-flagged river steamer Wen Hsing was strafed and bombed by raiding Nationalist P-51s recently.

The Wen Hsing was towed into port recently, totally gutted by fire caused by incendiaries.

Another Red ship, the ss. Kwai Hai, belonging to the recently-defunct Kwangsi Navigation Company, a semi-Kuomintang shipping organisation, is at present "stranded" at Cheung Sha Wan. Most of her personnel, it was learned, had left the ship when the company switched to the new regime.

A report said that attempts to recruit personnel to man the converted British Navy landing craft have, hitherto, been fruitless. This, however, could not be confirmed. The Connaught Road office of the company closed down in mid-March.

The sister ship of the Kwai Hai is at present at Canton. It could not be confirmed whether she had already obtained her new registry. The Kwai Hai was sent to the Colony early in January according to her owner, to register for the new flag at Canton.

In the weeks following her departure, she was reported to be undergoing certain formalities before she could begin service in the Pearl River area. So far, no report has reached the Colony that she is on the run.

Flying KMT flag

The Kwangsi Navigation Company left the Colony with only a skeleton staff. A number of the Hong Kong personnel, ordered to follow suit, they were paid several months' salaries and been sent to the mainland.

Meanwhile, reports for those few Communist-embarked ships, all the Chinese vessels in port now, are being the Kuomintang flag. Most of them are in a number have changed to Panemianan registry some of them are at Canton, others at Hong Kong. The Panemianan flag is being used by the Kuomintang in the mainland. The Kuomintang flag is being used by the Kuomintang in the mainland. The Kuomintang flag is being used by the Kuomintang in the mainland.

Counterfeiting case

CROWN COUNSEL ON
CLEVER FORGERIES

One of the largest and most sensational seizures of counterfeit currency ever staged in the Colony—worth more than half a million American dollars on its face value—was described by Mr. A. Hooton, Crown Counsel, at the Criminal Sessions yesterday.

Mr. Hooton said expert evidence would be given to show that the money purporting to be United States Federal Reserve banknotes, mostly of \$100, were remarkably clever forgeries which could not be detected by the ordinary person.

Mr. Justice (Gould, Senior Puisne Judge, and a jury of six men and one woman trying three Chinese, were further acquainted with the ingenious "photographic" processes employed in the making of the notes, the first batch of which were seized aboard a plane at Kai Tak bound for Siam.

The accused in the dock are Tam Kuen alias Tam Sheung, aged 45, of 122 Nathan Road; first floor; Tam Chai-wo, aged 25, haberdashery broker; and Tam Ching-ping, aged 33, brother of the first accused residing at 223 Jaffa Road, second floor.

They are facing three counts of possession of forged banknotes and one of possession of implements of forgery.

Assisting Crown Counsel in the prosecution is Chief Inspector Tom Caspman, Assistant Director of Criminal Investigation for Kowloon.

Defending first accused is Mr. Percy Chen and Mr. V. J. L. D'Alton, both instructed by Mr. J. C. Stewart. Mr. D'Alton himself instructed by Mr. Stewart is appearing for the second and third accused.

Dealing with each count, Mr. Hooton told the jury that the first count was against the first and second accused. This was in relation to events on November 23, and was for possession of 105 of the forged \$100 notes.

The second count was against the first accused alone, and alleged that he was in possession of 3,500 forged \$100 notes. The third count embraced the first and third accused, and was in connection with possession of 2,770 \$100 forged notes and 20 US\$50 notes.

As to the last count, Mr. Hooton said the allegations were that on November 25, first accused himself had in his custody three metal plates upon which marks had been engraved, and which were peculiar to those marks found in Bank of England banknotes.

Turning to the events concerned, Mr. Hooton said that about 8.45 a.m. on November 22, a party of police officers led by the Kowloon CID Chief, Mr. Caspman, entered the Kai Tak airfield. In the waiting-room, they found first and second accused standing with other people.

Boarding a plane

The two men looked as if they were about to board a plane to Siam. Chief Inspector Caspman then went up and asked them if they had any luggage, to which they replied it was in the plane, which was bound for Siam.

Kowloon CID chief
testifies in court

Cross-examination of the Kowloon CID Chief and other police officers on the facts surrounding the arrest of a group of men on January 24 figured at the continued hearing of the application for the issuance of a writ of habeas corpus yesterday.

The applicants, eight in number, are asking for the writ against the Commissioner of Police and Superintendent of Prisons to show cause why their immediate release from custody should not be ordered.

The Acting Chief Justice, Mr. E. H. Williams, is trying the case. The applicants, who were among those taken into custody on January 24 in the premises of the Wing Lok Rattan Workers' Association in 104 Cheungshawan Road, are Chiu Ching-kong, Chiu Yiu, Chung So, Tsang Wu, Chiu Ying-cheung, Chan Kul-wan, To Kim-yong and Chiu Yiu.

Mr. B. A. Bernacchi, instructed by Mr. M. A. de Silva, is appearing for the applicants. Mr. A. Lonsdale, Crown Counsel, is representing the respondents assisted by Mr. E. C. Eusembie, Director of Criminal Investigation.

Yesterday morning counsel for both sides closed their legal arguments on the procedure of putting forward an application to the Governor for a writ of habeas corpus. The hearing of the application is expected to continue today.

Mr. Bernacchi contended that no such application can properly be made to the Governor until the time has elapsed for the filing of the application. This contention was opposed by Crown Counsel, who submitted that the application could be made at any time.

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Mr. Bernacchi contended that no such application can properly be made to the Governor until the time has elapsed for the filing of the application. This contention was opposed by Crown Counsel, who submitted that the application could be made at any time.

On instructions of the police, first accused brought back from the plane a suitcase, saying that it was his luggage. Further questioned, he admitted the case contained banknotes. At this, Mr. Caspman put him and the second accused under arrest. At the police station, the suitcase was opened with a key which from the second accused's pocket. From the second accused's pocket, a large quantity of paper, and so on, were taken out. On looking round the house, the police found a considerable amount of equipment found to be suited to the making of US\$100 notes—cameras, enlargers, developing trays, photographic frames, photographic ink, metal plates, a large quantity of paper, and so on.

Mr. Hooton said that the method of making the notes in this way was first by photographing genuine notes and enlarging the photos. Then the serial numbers would be taken out, the notes reduced to their proper size, then transferred by chemical process to a metal plate. This plate could then make an exact replica of the American dollar.

Falsed-bottom cupboard

First accused later took the police to his brother's house in Jaffa Road, Mr. Hooton continued. His brother, the third accused, showed the police a cupboard with a false bottom containing a further batch of forged notes, explaining that his elder brother had stored them there.

Afterwards the third accused took the police to a spot in Fleming Road where the police dug out from the ground some more metal plates. The first accused also showed the police three further plates bearing marks peculiar to those of Bank of England notes, inside his own house in Nathan Road.

The three were then formally charged with the offence, to which they made certain statements.

Mr. Hooton stated that an expert from the National City Bank would give evidence on the notes examined all the notes concerned taking three days to do so. The notes were such clever forgeries that they could not be detected by the ordinary person. There were however little defects in the portraits, and the colouring on the serial number was a little too dark. The paper was also of the wrong type.

Chief Inspector Caspman then took the stand to give evidence, after which two was intensively cross-examined.

The trial continues at 10 a.m. today.

Netherlands' recognition of Peking regime

The Hague, March 27. The Netherlands Government announced today that it has decided to recognize Mao Tse-tung's Communist Government in China.

A communique issued here said that Dr. J. W. Van Boxsum, Dutch Embassy Secretary, today handed a note to the Central Government in Peking, containing the Dutch recognition of the Chinese People's Republic with effect from today.

Mr. A. J. de Vroom, temporary Dutch Consul at Peking, at Nanking, will leave for Peking soon to take charge of the Dutch diplomatic mission there.

The communique said the Dutch Government had informed the Chinese Nationalist Government in the United States, the Republic of China, of their decision.

He has been told that this recognition of the Mao Tse-tung regime implies that Holland has withdrawn its de jure recognition of the Chinese Nationalist Government.

Holland is the 24th country to recognize the Chinese Communist regime.

TALKS ON WAGES

Officials of the Hong Kong Electric Company will meet representatives of the company's Chinese workers this morning to discuss demands for a 10 per cent increase in wages.

The meeting will be held at the company's headquarters in the Hong Kong Electric Building, 100 Queen's Road Central.

The workers' union, the Hong Kong Electric Workers' Union, has been in existence since 1946. It has a membership of about 1,000.

The union has been active in the past, and has been successful in securing a number of improvements for its members.

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Dairy Farm workers sep
arbitrator

Representatives of the Dairy Farm workers called on Professor R. Robertson yesterday to express their dissatisfaction over his award of only HK\$30 a month.

The men originally asked for HK\$80 a month, and when negotiations with the Dairy Farm Company reached a stalemate, the dispute was submitted to arbitration.

Professor Robertson told the representatives yesterday that having made the award, his job was finished and he could not do anything more in the matter.

The Dairy Farm workers will now meet among themselves to discuss their next course of action.

RUSSIAN
PLANES
BOMBED

Taipei, March 27. Press reports claim that Nationalist planes, in an attack on Lungshu Field in Shanghai on March 20, destroyed a great deal of crated plane equipment and killed 400 ground crew.

The reports said the crates came from the Soviet Union. By March 18, they declared, Soviet planes had been assembled, and a week later none more.

Test flights were made, the reports said, but after the March 20 attack, the crates which escaped destruction were shifted to Kiangsu Field in the Northern outskirts of Shanghai.

Planes taking part in the March 20 attack reportedly shot down three Communist planes which sped off before they could be engaged.

Nationalist warships today claimed that they sank more than 40 troop-laden Communist junks in an engagement yesterday at the mouth of the Yangtze near Shanghai.

Reports to Naval Headquarters said the junks belonged to a fleet of about 80 which was trying to sail southward from Shanghai through the Nationalist blockade.

All were armed with heavy machine-guns.

At the same time, other Nationalist warships claimed they sank 70 more Communist junks in Hangchow Bay South of Shanghai.

Another attempt of the Communists to send a small party to Hainan was driven off by three batteries, it was announced here today.

Later the Air Force sank three junks with 200 aboard. The junks tried to sneak into Wankin 10 miles East of Hainan, but were driven Northward after shore batteries opened fire.

Planes later sank a white whale, the tanker and a small ship. Many bodies were floating in the sea and a number of Communists were captured.

Nationalist aircraft were over Nanning, Zulchow and Paochow, destroying installations and shipping. Associated Press and United Press.

Good work
by police

Fast work on the part of the Police of the Eastern Police Station resulted in the arrest of three men suspected of robbing two women of money and valuables at Sookunpo on Saturday.

The two women, Ng Suk-jung and Ng Kiu were robbed of \$12 in cash, one gold ring and two pairs of earrings.

The three suspects, arrested on Saturday afternoon were Lok Kwok-kuen, aged 34, Ho Tse-ku, aged 29, and Chai Tse, aged 31. They gave their names as those living in the area where the robbery took place.

Detective Sub-Inspector R. G. Leung, who was in charge of the three-day search, reported that the three suspects were arrested on Saturday afternoon.

Also arrested on Saturday afternoon were three men who were found in possession of six gold rings suspected of robbing a woman on Saturday afternoon.

The three suspects, aged 25, 26, and 27, were arrested on Saturday afternoon.

Sub-Inspector Walter Roach, who was in charge of the three-day search, reported that the three suspects were arrested on Saturday afternoon.

Also arrested on Saturday afternoon were three men who were found in possession of six gold rings suspected of robbing a woman on Saturday afternoon.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE ANNUAL MEETING

(Continued From Page 1)

"There are two sets of tables, one for pre-war figures and the other for post-war figures and it will be seen how there has been a swing over from the North East Asia Group to the South East Asia Group. Statistics, of course, can mislead as well as inform but it does not require much research to convince us that our business has expanded and is finding channels which never existed before the war. There are many traders from the North whose activities have materially increased the volume of trade between here and the ports of Tsingtao and Tientsin."

"Our trade with Japan has increased despite a setback during the last few months of the year in consequence of the devaluation of sterling. Devaluation might have involved the Colony in a serious exchange loss in connection with the two-way account with SCAP, but prompt action taken in consultation with this Chamber saved the situation and, as things are working out, there may be a profit instead of a potential loss."

"There is no doubt that Hong Kong has proved a useful trading partner for Japan and with the passage of time SCAP has come more and more to rely upon Hong Kong as a source of supply for Japan's needs and as an outlet for her manufactures. In the absence of any direct means of linking the economies of China and Japan, Hong Kong has been the intermediary and many transactions not involving shipments in and out of the Colony have been financed through the two-way account."

"When commercial relations between Japan and Hong Kong were established in the autumn of 1946 there was a lack of system which not surprisingly led to a sense of frustration for some of our members and their branches in Japan. Conditions under which this trade was conducted improved during 1949. Since the year closed Mr. K. M. A. Binnell, as Director of Supplies and Distribution, visited Japan to negotiate with SCAP and we have every hope that a mutually satisfactory arrangement will have been arrived at."

"We should like to feel that the trade will be allowed to develop in a normal manner by merchants as entrepreneurs between Japanese manufacturers and producers and overseas markets, and vice versa aided by the support and assistance of their bankers."

Official office necessary

"It appears as if the Hong Kong Government Office in Tokyo will still be necessary. In this connection I should like to acknowledge the indebtedness of many of our members to the present Representative in charge, Mr. V. J. Anderson, who for the past year has used all his endeavours to pilot the merchant through the intricate channels surrounding SCAP. I hope steps will be taken to provide Mr. Anderson with fully qualified assistance and that sufficient funds will be made available to improve the existing office organization."

"It is understood that the Department of Supplies and Distribution is about to be merged in the Department of Commerce and Industry. We have full confidence in the newly appointed Director, Mr. A. G. Clarke, and we feel sure that the experience of the financial side of the administration will stand him in good stead."

"One of the relics of the old regime which will presumably come under Commerce and Industry is Price Control. Without casting any reflection upon the present Price Controller, who has never been entirely free from agent, many of us have found Price Control a thorn in the flesh and we should like to see the last of it."

"In regard to essential foodstuffs, clothing and other necessities it has served its purpose but it has wasted the time of merchants to an inordinate extent by calling for information regarding luxury and semi-luxury lines and it has made some arbitrary ruling without any consideration for the circumstance of the case."

"For example a decision was apparently made in December that canned provisions from America should be priced on the basis of HK\$5.30 to US\$1 despite the fact that the free market rate was well above that level where for some time it remained. No prior notification was given to importers nor was this Chamber consulted. Yet we have now provided figures showing that similar commodities from Australia, owing to a rise in price probably in consequence of devaluation, are now costing more than the American article even if the latter were imported on the basis of the current free market price."

"Then again the margin of profit allowed to importers of pharmaceuticals has been arbitrarily reduced with the consequence that certain lines have been driven under the counter. We have, of course, brought these anomalies to the attention of the officials concerned but they have yet to convince them that the most effective form of price control is competition between dealers."

"Apart from expensive luxuries no line can be sold here at more than a reasonable margin of profit without all the usual red tape and uncertainties. And many of our members are well able to take

care of themselves if any attempt is made to overcharge."

Import trade

"I should like to turn to our import trade. Textiles formed nearly 10 per cent of the total imports and as you are aware the Piece Goods market has always been of concern to many of our members. The days when White and Greys were shipped here in vast quantities by Manchester have long passed away and even our Fancy Piece Goods trade with Lancashire, which reached its zenith immediately after the First World War, is but a shadow of its former self."

"In the case of Woollens at Worsteds, Bradford goods still lead the way but unfortunately over-buying during 1949 has resulted in heavy stocks being carried over to the season which is just passing and owing to the virtual cessation of shipments to Canton there is still a substantial carry over, particularly in worsted suitings, to next autumn. The



Mr. C. G. Roberts, the new Chairman of the General Chamber of Commerce. ("China Mail" photo).

"one consolation is that with the phenomenal rise in the price of raw wool replacing cost is now far above the landed cost of stocks held here and on paper there is a potential profit in view if demand revives."

"The influx of wealthy Chinese from the North has greatly expanded purchasing power in the shops and stalls along Queen's Road Central will convince one that there is an air of prosperity which has enabled many retailers to modernize their premises and thus to display their wares to greater advantage. It must, however, be borne in mind that much of the increased purchasing power comes from capital and it is doubtful whether this can be replenished. Retailers, therefore, should take care that they are not carried away by the increased turnover of the past year otherwise they may find themselves in a false position."

"There are other categories of the Import Trade where caution is called for. One of the drawbacks to the Import Trade is the temptation, to which many small importers succumb when there happens to be a shortage of a particular commodity. Enhanced profits made by those who have stocks leads to speculative purchases by all and sundry so that when supplies arrive again, the market is flooded and the then slump in weak holders feverishly striving to cut their losses."

"Chemicals and Paper are two lines which have suffered in this way and it is particularly galling to merchants who have regularly handled such lines to find their business affected by competitors who have no technical knowledge of the commodities which they are handling."

"As the Report points out, the Export Trade in China Produce has been extremely active. This was due, of course, to the virtual closure of Shanghai and the Northern Ports to ocean shipping but later in the year the reception of produce in Hong Kong was reduced to small proportions. Nevertheless, overseas demand for China Produce, particularly in the case of Wood Oil, stimulated prices and on the whole exporters did well in 1949. Since the close of the year it is reported that the People's Government are re-organizing the trade of North China no doubt with the object of arranging direct shipments to overseas markets."

"It is hoped that this will not involve an attempt to bypass the experienced local importer and exporter, the value of whose services in the checking of quantities and specifications and in ensuring adherence to established standards are not always fully appreciated."

"Local industry has been greatly encouraged by the removal of import restrictions into the United Kingdom. This has enabled many exporters to re-establish relations with their buyers in Britain and Hong Kong manufactured goods are again meeting the demand for the lower income group whose needs are for something cheaper than British manufactures can produce. It is, however, of the utmost importance that local manufacturers in their endeavour to market their goods at a competitive price should pay any

temptation to lower their quality. In this connection Mr. E. G. A. Grimwood, the Hong Kong Government representative in London, visited Hong Kong with a view to instituting a set of standards for the guidance of manufacturers. The Chamber is now working in conjunction with the Chinese Manufacturers' Union to establish minimum requirements and there is every reason to hope that exporters will be able to despatch their orders without any fear of claims arising on the grounds of inferiority."

Industrial plants

"There has during the year been a continued increase in the growth and establishment of industrial plants in the Colony which has been particularly marked on the textile side. Local industry is making an important contribution to the commercial life of the Colony and besides providing an additional source of import and export trade, is thereby reducing to a valuable extent our dependence on pure entrepot business."

"It is perhaps not generally appreciated to what an extent the efficient operation of existing plants and the establishment of new ones is governed by the question of water supply. In view of the great and growing importance of our industries to the economy of the Colony, it is hoped that Government plans for the establishment of new reservoirs will be pushed ahead with all speed."

"The British Industries Fair has undoubtedly been of great assistance in bringing to the attention of home buyers and consumers the many useful articles which are manufactured here. We are by no means satisfied that the Hong Kong Fair is as effective a medium as it might be but we are gaining experience and we have every reason to hope that this year's stall will show a marked improvement over those of 1948 and 1949."

"Fortunately the Chamber will be represented at the Fair by our Secretary who is making a business holiday of the first two weeks of his home leave and as he attended last year's Fair he will be able to turn his experience to advantage. The Committee which, under the Chairmanship of the Director of Commerce and Industry, has been working hard on preparations for the despatch of Hong Kong's display has had the assistance of Mr. Harry Owen Hughes who like our Secretary was present at the BIF last year."

"We hope that there will be a strong delegation from Hong Kong, including both manufacturers and merchants, and our Vice-Chairman, Mr. C. Blaker, has kindly consented to act as leader of Hong Kong's party. One of the matters which the Chamber representatives will have in mind is the desirability of putting home buyers in touch with exporting merchant houses in Hong Kong. Buyers who endeavour to establish direct relations with manufacturers are often disappointed in cases where the organization is not adapted to export business and it is there that the merchant can offer services which are outside the capacity of the manufacturer."

"We recently had a case where a buyer in Britain, having placed a large order with a local manufacturer, wrote to the Chamber requesting us to provide a surveyor who would, for what the buyer believed would be a nominal fee, ensure that the goods shipped were in accordance with the sale note. We felt it necessary to advise our applicant that what he was asking us to do was to provide the normal services of a surveyor at a nominal charge. We would not cater for the merchant performing an essential service in marketing the products of a factory and that the extra cost is more than compensated for by the services rendered."

"As you probably know I spent several months in Britain last year, during which time I came in contact with many businessmen. There were many interesting and considerable concerns in the situation in Hong Kong, particularly as so many of the newspapers carried reports which painted a very black picture. It was by no means to produce a contrasting picture of Hong Kong standing as a sure rock in the midst of troubled waters. The line I took was that here the reason for confidence in the future of Hong Kong because of the prompt action of the Home Government."

"For more than 100 years the merchants of Hong Kong have been inclined to think that whatever Government was in power at Westminster they never retained the support that was due to them. I don't think that view can be held now. The visit of the Minister of Defence, the appointment of General Feilding (whose sudden departure was deplored by us all), and the rapid reinforcement not only of the garrison but of the Naval and Air Forces showed that the Imperial Government was determined that this small portion of the Empire was to be maintained against any threat which might menace it. From whatever quarter it might come, and we the merchants of today are I am sure, only thankful that

"But business houses at home took a lot of convincing and some of them were reluctant to let shipments go forward to Hong Kong even in cases where contracted goods were provided."

hope that they now realise that there was every justification for overcoming their reluctance."

"I should like to add a word of appreciation for the service which this Chamber receives from the China Association in London. The Association is ever ready to act on our behalf whenever we call upon it and by keeping close contact with Government departments as well as with all organizations, commercial or otherwise, who have relations with the Far East, it performs a most useful function for which we are grateful."

"I cannot conclude without an expression of sympathy for the business community in Shanghai who for months past have suffered an ordeal which must have done much to weaken their morale. We greatly deplore the loss of life occasioned to those who through no fault of their own have been victims of a senseless warfare and we fervently hope that the great city of Shanghai will before long emerge

Chamber of Commerce officials

Mr. C. C. Roberts, Manager of Butterfield and Swire, was elected Chairman of the Hong Kong General Chamber of Commerce for the current year at the annual general meeting of the Chamber yesterday."

Mr. P. S. Cassidy, outgoing Chairman, was elected Vice-Chairman.

from its hour of trial and once again play its part as a great commercial metropolis."

Undaunted spirit

The Report and Accounts were seconded by Mr. S. Storm-Jorgensen. He said:

"After due credit has been given to the Government and allowance made for the unusual opportunities which the abnormal circumstances have offered, I am inclined to believe that a good share of the Colony's success in 1949 is due to the undaunted spirit which has prevailed in general, a spirit kept alive by the Colony's leading citizens in all walks of life, by various bodies of commerce and industry, not least by the General Chamber of Commerce, headed by its Chairman, Committees and Staff, and supported by all its members."

"I shall abstain from comment on the much discussed new taxation proposal and restrict myself to express hopes that, whatever may be the outcome of the tax question, the various tasks before the Government, such as improved ferry service across the harbour and the long overdue airport, will be proceeded with as quickly and efficiently as possible. We all hope that the present lull in the air-traffic will be of a temporary nature only, and wish to see Hong Kong equipped with an airport which may rival its splendid harbour."

"In spite of the increased volume of shipping, which passed through Hong Kong last year, the port has again proven itself worthy of its fame and high standard of previous years with quick turn rounds, no labour trouble, etc., and as regards the Godown Companies, I think they are again to be congratulated on the good service rendered during difficult conditions."

"In this connection I feel that mention should also be made of the generally satisfactory co-operation, which has existed between the consignees of paper, fertilizer, and so on, and the shipping companies. As you know, Hong Kong consignees are used to the facility of direct discharge of their goods into the public godowns, and it has been an unpleasant necessity for the shipping agents to have to insist on delivery direct ex ships' tackles to consignees' lighters, but I am glad to say that, as far as I know, in the majority of cases the direct discharge under these conditions has proceeded fairly satisfactorily. I hope this co-operation will continue to the benefit of all concerned."

"With reference to our Chairman's interesting remarks on the Japan trade, I believe that this sphere of business has been the cause of some disappointment to a number of dealers. The present way of doing business here is highly necessary and desirable from certain points of view, but viewed from a purely commercial angle it carries with it besides an expensive administration paid for by the merchants, a measure of control alien to free trade, and also such undesirable features—in spite of the rules and regulations of the trade—as a black market in so-called 'Japan dollars' plus subsidizing of export goods at the expense of import commodities."

"I heartily endorse the Chairman's remarks regarding price control. In as much as I believe that control of most commodities including rice could now be safely discarded, and that such a step would be to the general benefit of the trade, as a black market, and also of the purchasing public, in any case, I think no time should be lost in allowing rice to enter the Colony, to be sold in the same way as sugar and flour, as such a step would offer new possibilities for Hong Kong's entrepot business."

Taxation

"At the end of the meeting the Chairman made the following statement on the question of Taxation—"

"In my address on the Report I purposely omitted any reference to the Budget recently presented by Government. My reason for so doing was that the address is confined to a review of the year which has passed, and therefore does not deal with events in 1950, and in any case I was acting as the mouth-piece of the General Committee. I now address you as your representative on the Legislative Council and I alone am responsible for any of the opinions expressed."

"There is no doubt that there is considerable opposition to Government's proposals. This is by no means confined to the foreign section of the community who feel that an increase in direct taxation would effect them considerably more than it would the other sections of the community. Chinese opinion as expressed by the Chinese Chamber of Commerce, the Chinese Manufacturers' Union and the Kowloon Chamber of Commerce is also opposed to the Government's proposals and prefers that indirect taxation should be resorted to if additional revenue is required."

"In the course of last Wednesday's debate the weight of Unofficial opinion was against the Financial Secretary's recommendation that the standard rate of Business Profits tax should be raised from 10 to 15 per cent and that Salaries tax should be adjusted to a higher level than that at present in force. Various alternative methods of raising revenue were suggested the most interesting one being the proposal to levy a flat charge of \$300 or over on each business firm and company."

"I think it is generally agreed that the Business and Earnings taxes fall on the shoulders of a comparatively few and that any increase in the standard rate would not only add to the present unfairness but that it would lead to still further evasion. Criticism of the Inland Revenue Department shows that there is a lack of confidence in its capacity to ensure equitable treatment of all parties who are liable under the Ordinance."

"In my opinion the Department has to work under considerable strain partly due to it being deficient in staff, at any rate as regards senior officers with the requisite qualifications. It is to my mind highly desirable that until the time comes when it is possible to levy a more equitable tax, any further revenue required should be raised by indirect means."

General committee

The following members of the General Committee were re-elected: Mr. Arthur Morse and Messrs. D. F. Landale, P. S. Cassidy, J. D. Alexander, C. Blaker, H. J. Collar, E. R. Hill, A. Bichie, C. C. Roberts and John Robinson."

Mr. I. W. Shewan did not offer himself for re-election. On the recommendation of the Committee, Mr. H. Owen Hughes and Mr. J. W. Webster were also elected."

The meeting also confirmed the election of 80 new members to the Chamber since the last annual meeting."

Percy Smith and Company were re-elected auditors of the Chamber."

REME MAN ON GRAVE CHARGE

Craftsman Leslie James Birch, REME, faced criminal proceedings before Mr. James Wicks at Kowloon yesterday on three charges of rape, robbery with violence and rendering a person incapable by intent to commit an indictable offence."

In a brief opening outline, Detective Sub-Inspector P. Lowe alleged that, shortly after midnight on February 16, complainant Mrs. Hyginia Rozario Maling, of 8-Housing Estate, Ma Tei Chung, Argyle Street, boarded a bus to go home at the Star Ferry wharf. Defendant, who was seated beside her, began to make friendly gestures toward her but was rebuffed."

Inspector Lowe said that when complainant got off at the corner of Prince Edward Road and Fanning Road, defendant also got off and followed her. His advances were again rebuffed and at the entrance of 103 Argyle Street defendant was alleged to have shoved and knocked complainant unconscious. When complainant came to she found that she was about 200 yards from the original place of attack. She managed to find her way home but again relapsed into unconsciousness. After evidence was taken from several witnesses including Inspector Lowe, Dr. Young Kwantun, and Dr. G. E. Moore, both of the Kowloon Hospital, and Dr. Pang Tin-cheung, Police Surgeon, hearing was adjourned until April 6."

LAND AUCTION

There was brisk bidding at yesterday's Crown Land Auction Sale at the Public Works Department. Two 1,400-square-foot residential lots were sold for HK\$4,500. Total gross price for the two lots was HK\$9,000. Mr. Yee Lok and Mr. Lam Cheung were the joint buyers of the lots.

Reminders

Today

HK Rotary Club, Closed Meeting, Roof Garden, HK Hotel, 12.30 p.m.
Urban Council meeting GPO Bldg., 4.15 p.m.
European YMCA, Bridge Drive, 8 p.m.
HK Light Orchestra rehearsal, St. John's Cathedral hall, 8.45 p.m.
HK Rotary, Free Anti-Trachoma Clinic, 217 King's Road, official opening by Dr. T. J. Hui, 2.30 p.m.
Cheero Service Club, Whist Drive, 8 p.m.
Nine Dragons Services Club, Billy Tingles's P. T. and Boxing, 8 p.m.; Whist Drive, 8 p.m.
Kowloon Union Church, Women's Guild meeting, 10 a.m.
HK Rope Manufacturing Co., Ltd., annual general meeting, Chung Tin Bldg., 12 noon.
Little Flower Club, annual meeting, King's Park, 6 p.m.
HK Football Referees Association monthly meeting, Prince's Bldg., 8.30 p.m.

Coming Events

TOMORROW
Toc H meeting, 80, Macdonnell Road, 8.30 p.m.
Nine Dragons Services Club, Film Show, 8 p.m.
HK Art Club, Monthly Exhibition, St. John's Cathedral hall, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. (admission free).
European YMCA Debating Society Annual Dinner, 8 p.m.
Women's Section, European YMCA, Whist Drive, 10 a.m.

THURSDAY
HK Art Club, Monthly Exhibition, St. John's Cathedral hall, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. (admission free).
Nine Dragons Services Club, Hong Kong Band Club, 8 p.m.
Kowloon Rotary Club, Luncheon, Peninsula Hotel, 12.30 p.m.
Y's Men Club, luncheon-meeting, Roof Garden, HK Hotel, 12.45 p.m.

Actor summoned by wife

The Chinese actor, Yiu Ping, was summoned before Mr. Thomas at Central yesterday by his wife, Ng King-fong.

He was summoned for assaulting her on January 1, for persistently and also for neglecting to provide reasonable maintenance for her, who was his "Rit fat" wife and therefore legally liable to be maintained."

The complainant also asked for the custody of her 14-year-old son, and \$300 monthly as maintenance."

The defendant was represented by Mr. Y. H. Chan.

The complainant said that they had been married for more than 15 years. About two years ago quarrels arose because of the wife wanting to change the name of the son. On the 18th day of the 12th month (Lunar calendar) the defendant returned to 182, Wo Sung Street, first floor and assaulted her. She continued that he had ordered her from the premises two days earlier but she had replied that she had nowhere to go.

About 6.30 p.m. on that day he hid come home and attacked her. A thermos flask was thrown at her but missed. She suffered injuries to various parts of the body. She told the Court that she had heard friends say that the defendant earned about HK\$1,000 each month and asked for \$300 each month for maintenance. Cross-examined by Mr. Chan, she denied having fought with the defendant, saying that the defendant always attacked her without provocation as she had refused to leave the house. She also denied that she tried to stay out until the early hours of the morning, adding that she never left the house unless he gave her permission.

At the conclusion of the cross-examination the case was adjourned to April 5.

MERCHANT NAVY MEN FINED

Thomas Frank, aged 23, tiller of an Empire, Oswald, Douglas Lower, aged 23, tiller, and Roy Ansell, Fourth Engineer of the same ship, were each fined \$100 and \$50 respectively for being drunk yesterday when they were found guilty on a charge of committing a public mischief. (The prosecution story was that the three defendants boarded the ship on board King's on March 21 and tried to start a riot. They were told not to do so by the ticket collector, Mr. Blake Pler.)

The police were sent for and the defendants were taken to the Central Police Station.

KCR DENIAL

Reports that a second Shanghai goods train arrived in Kowloon on Sunday afternoon were denied yesterday by an official of the Kowloon-Canton Railway.



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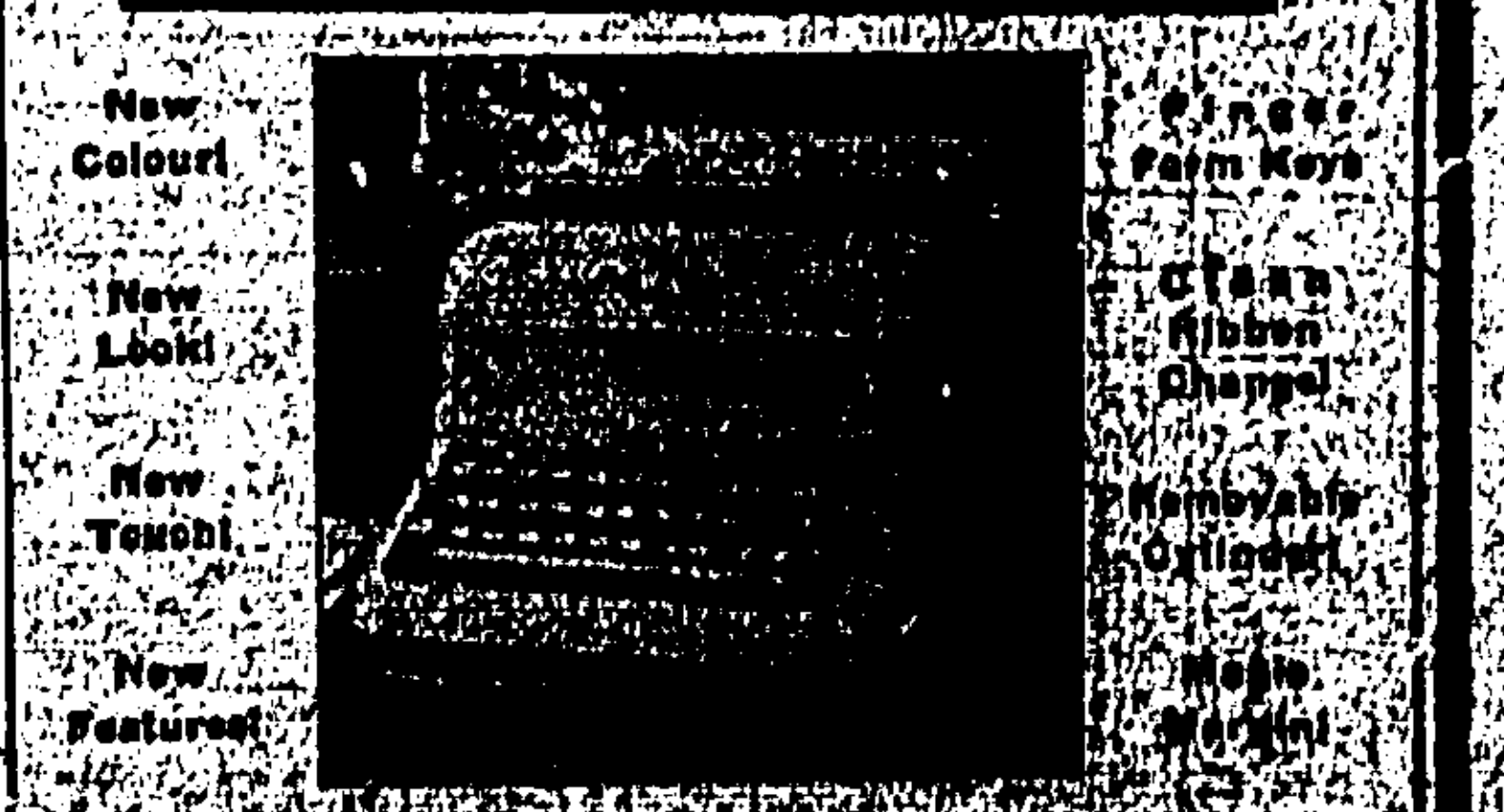
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WINSTON CHURCHILL'S WAR MEMOIRS: THE THIRD BOOK

THE GRAND ALLIANCE
Clamour for a second front

By Winston Churchill



from gravity of the crisis on the Russian front is poignant terms which commended my sympathy. But when presently I sensed an underlying air of menace in his appeal I was angered.

I said to the Ambassador, whom I had known for many years, "Remember that only four months ago we in this island did not know whether you were not coming in against us on the German side. Indeed, we thought it quite likely that you would. Even then we felt sure we should win in the end. We never thought our survival was dependent on your action either way. Whatever happens, and whatever you do, you are all people have no right to make reproaches to us." As I warmed to the topic the Ambassador exclaimed, "More calm, please, my dear Mr. Churchill," but thereafter his tone perceptibly changed. The dis-

we shall try even before the Moscow Conference to tell you the numbers of aircraft and tanks we can jointly promise to send each month, together with supplies of rubber, aluminium, cloth, &c. For our part we are now prepared to send you, from British production, one-half of the monthly total for which you ask in aircraft and tanks. We hope the United States will supply the other half of your requirements. We shall use every endeavour to start the flow of equipment to you immediately. 4. We have given already

casion and the turning-point character which would attach to our reply. Although nothing in his language warranted the assumption, we could not exclude the impression that they might be thinking of separate terms.

The Cabinet have thought it right to send the attached reply. Hope you will not object to our references to possible American aid. I feel that the moment may be decisive. We can but do our best.

Cable from Stalin

On Sept. 15, 1941, I received another telegram from Stalin. In my last message (he said) I stated the viewpoint of the Soviet Government that the establishment of a second front is the most fundamental remedy for improvement of the situation with regard to our common cause. In reply to your message, in which you stress once more the impossibility of a second front at the present moment, I can only reiterate that the absence of a second front simply favours the designs of our common enemy.

I have no doubt that the British Government desires to see the Soviet Union victorious and is looking for ways and means to attain this end. If, as they think, the establishment of a second front in the West is at present impossible, perhaps another method could be found to render to the Soviet Union an active military help.

It seems to me that Great Britain could without risk land in Archangel 25 to 30 divisions, or transport them across Iran to the Southern regions of the USSR. In this way there could be established military collaboration between the Soviet and British troops on the territory of the USSR. A similar situation existed during the last war—in France. The arrangement mentioned would constitute a great help. It would be a serious blow against the Hitler aggression.

It is almost incredible that the head of the Russian Government with all the advice of their military experts could have committed himself to such absurdities. It seemed hopeless to argue with a man thinking in terms of utter unreality. He continued: "I thank you very much for your promise to render us assistance by the monthly deliveries of aluminium, tanks and aircraft."

I can only welcome the intention of the British Government to render this assistance in aluminium, tanks and aircraft not on the usual commercial basis (but) of comradeship and collaboration. I hope the British Government will have ample opportunity of being convinced that the Soviet Government understands how to appreciate the help received from its ally....

I sent the best answer I could to this message: Prime Minister to M. Stalin, 17 September 41. "Many thanks for your message. The Harriman Mission has all arrived, and is working all day long with Beaverbrook and his colleagues. The object is to survey the whole field of resources so as to be able to work out with you a definite programme of monthly delivery by every possible route, and thus help repair as far as possible losses of your munition industries. President Roosevelt's idea



"Follicles shot by armed robbers." It would have been a distinctly better story if they'd been shot by unarmed robbers.

So Joe is not going to have a try at regaining the heavyweight championship after all. There was the disturbing possibility that he might Louis.

Flying saucers are now reported over Morocco. That's going to shake them.

"Shook to Parisians." No, Myrtle, it wasn't a chorus girl with all her clothes on.

On his arrival in Slam, the young king's limousine was sprayed with perfume. Quite understandably, as the car was sent out to adulterate Auldred.

This closing of factories brings balm to nobody, except those who have Rod spots.

Philadelphia surgeons have successfully operated on a man's heart through the neck. When the patient arrived in hospital, his heart was in his mouth. How very convenient, said the medicos.

"Whittle down what extra bulge with tested seven-day diet." I give up. Tell me.

Then we had: "If your hips are prominent, tuck them under a couple of inches." Of what?

"Most adults are children at heart, and they love ice cream and trifles, no matter how old they are."

Sorry, but when they're more than a week old, this adult just loses interest.

Forward Dracula. "Next change: Kiss the blood off my hands." It would be quite a change, but at the moment I'm otherwise engaged.

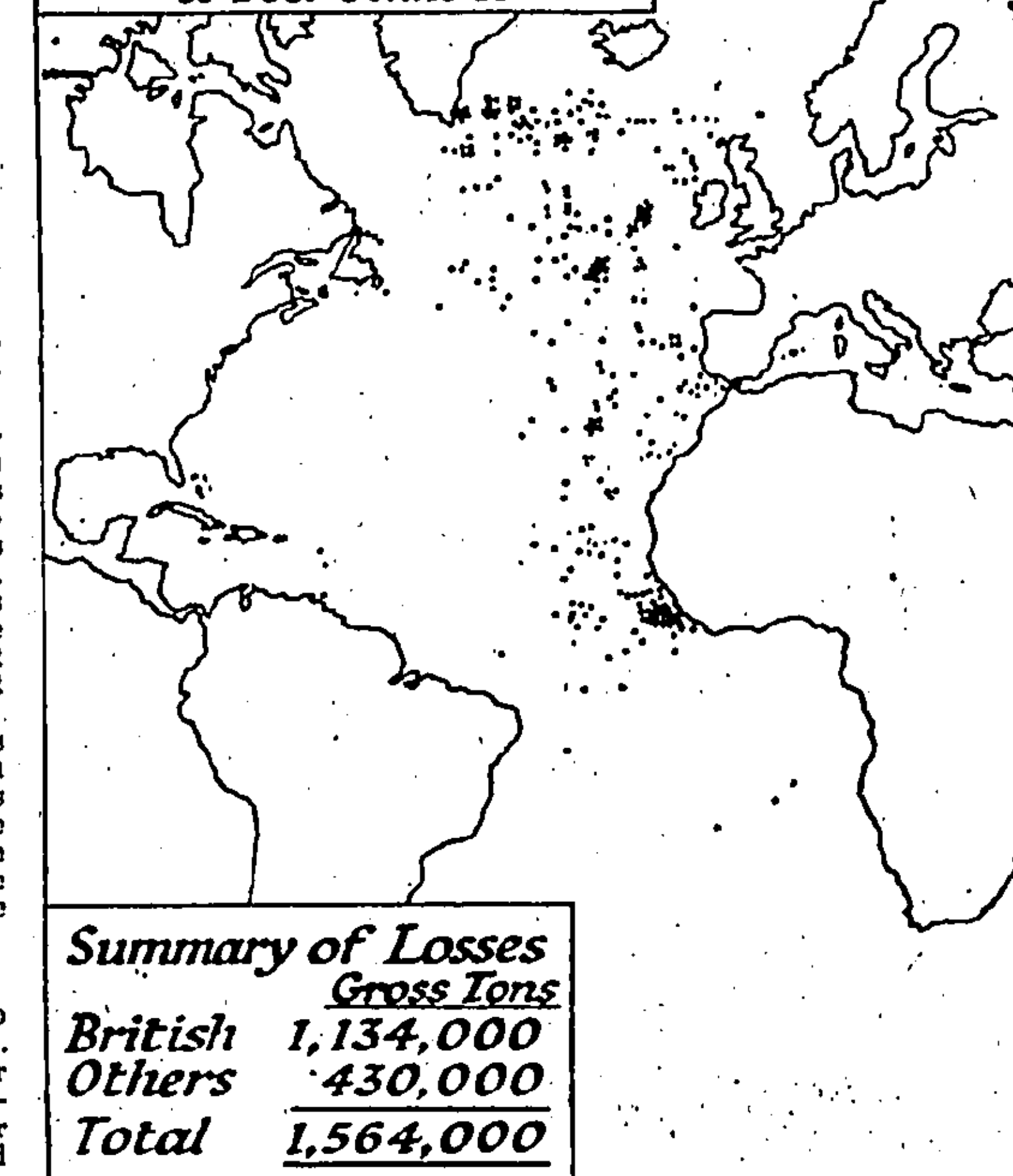
Local trade unionists have offered two motor vehicles to Peking, and are due to drive them to the mainland today. They will at least have a run for their money.

A company has been formed in England to offer holidays to be paid for on the instalment system. So it will be a case of saving up for one's last holiday.

Is that this plan should cover up till the end of June, but naturally we shall go on with you till victory. I hope the conference may open in Moscow on the 28th of this month, but no publicity should be given till all are safely gathered. The routes and method of travel will be signalled later.

(To be continued)

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PHASE III
THE OCEAN
Up to the Entry of the
United States into the War
March 18th, 1941
to Dec. 6th, 1941

	Gross Tons
British	1,134,000
Others	430,000
Total	1,564,000

ussion went over the ground already covered in the interchange of telegrams. The Ambassador pleaded for an immediate landing on the coast of France or the Low Countries. I explained the military reasons which rendered this impossible, and that it could be no relief to Russia.

I said that I had spent five hours that day examining with our experts the means for greatly increasing the capacity of the Trans-Persian railway. I spoke of the Beaverbrook-Harriman Mission [shortly to go to Moscow] and of our resolve to give all the supplies we could spare or carry. Finally Mr. Eden and I told him that we should be ready for our part to make it plain to the Finns that we would declare war upon them if they advanced into Russia beyond their 1918 frontiers. M. Maisky could not of course abandon his appeal for an immediate second front—and it was useless to argue further.

Cabinet consulted

I at once consulted the Cabinet upon the issues raised in this conversation and in Stalin's message, and that evening sent a reply. Prime Minister to M. Stalin, September 4, '41.

1. I reply at once in the spirit of your message. Although we should shrink from no exertion, there is in fact no possibility of any British action in the West, except air action, which would draw the German forces from the East before the winter sets in. There is no chance whatever of a second front being formed in the Balkans without the help of Turkey. I will, if your Excellency desires, give all the reasons which have led our Chiefs of Staff to these conclusions. They have already been discussed with your Ambassador in conference to day with the Foreign Secretary and the Chief of Staff Action, however well-meant, leading only to costly fiascos would be no help to anyone but Hitler.

2. The information at my disposal gives me the impression that the humiliating violation of the German invasion is already over, and that winter will give your heroic armies a breathing-space. This however is a personal opinion.

3. About supplies. We are well aware of the grievous losses which Russian industry has sustained, and every effort has been and will be made by us to help you. I am sending President Roosevelt to expedite the arrival here in London of Mr. Harriman's Mission, and

the orders for supplying the Persian railway with rolling-stock to raise it from its present capacity of two trains a day each way up to its full capacity, namely, 12 trains a day each way. This should be reached by the spring of 1942, and meanwhile will be steadily improving. Locomotives and rolling-stock have to be sent round the Cape from this country after being converted to oil-burners, and the water supply along the railway has to be developed. The first 48 locomotives and 400 steel trucks are about to start.

Joint plans

5. We are ready to make joint plans with you now. Whether British armies will be strong enough to invade the mainland of Europe during 1942 must depend on unforeseeable events. It may be possible however to assist you in the extreme North when there is more darkness. We are hoping to raise our armies in the Middle East to a strength of three-quarters of a million before the end of the present year, and thereafter to a million by the summer of 1942.

Once the German-Italian forces in Libya have been destroyed all these forces will be available to come into line on your Southern flank, and it is hoped to encourage Turkey to maintain at the least a faithful neutrality. Meanwhile we shall continue to batter Germany from the air with increasing severity and to keep the seas open and ourselves alive.

6. In your first paragraph you used the word "sell." We had not viewed the matter in such terms and have never thought of payment. Any assistance we can give you would be better by the same basis of comradeship as the American Lend-Lease Bill, of which no formal account is kept in money.

7. We are willing to put any pressure upon Finland in our notification that we will declare war upon her should she continue beyond the old frontiers. We are asking the United States to take all possible steps to influence Finland.

I thought the whole matter so important that I sent simultaneously the following telegram to the President while the impression was fresh in my mind: "Former Naval Person to President Roosevelt, Sept. 5, '41. 'The Soviet Ambassador brought the subjoined message to me and Eden last night, and used language of vague import about the gravity of the co-

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MEMORIAL SERVICE

FITZROY-WILLIAMS—A Memorial Service for David Fitzroy-Williams, DSC and Bar, Lieut. R.N. (ret'd), will be held at St. John's Cathedral at 4.30 p.m. Thursday, March 30th.

THE SIMPLE PLAN

As usual, the tax-collector is running away with policy and doctrine in the People's China. In the era of the Tachuns, Cabinets came and went like shadows. Power rested with the Military, and the sole policy of their wars and their peace was to grab more and more of both public and private revenues. The Nationalists also had idealists and doctrinaires. Hu Han-min tried to impose revolutionary changes by legislation. The Hundred Days of reform by Edict of Kwang Hsu was mere byplay compared with the spate of words and laws, including the Civil Code, which poured from the Legislative Yuan in its palmiest days. It was all in vain. The long gowns and short jackets were soon involved in those bitter controversies which culminated in the 1930 civil war. All through events have conformed with the good old rule, the simple plan, that they should take who have the power, and they should keep who can. The only difference nowadays is that more is taken and less is kept.

Judgment of the Communists will be based on what they do for the people, not by speeches or doctrines. The People's Government must be expected to be a government for the people, if not by or of the people. The higher the claims, the higher the expectations, the steeper the drop in popular esteem if they fail in this. Certainly, in many things they are doing better than any previous government in China's modern history, in the teeth of difficulties and economic deterioration that have become progressively worse. But the tax-collector is more rapacious than ever. The Victory Bond racket has attacked high and low alike—except the officials themselves, of course. Ideology has come down from the stars and people are being compelled to turn their pockets out. Desperate needs have produced desperate methods, and desperate methods in their turn require desperate measures.

Even the Communist hierarchy are alarmed about it all, and the Central Committee on Saturday issued an appeal—pardon, an instruction—to all Party members to "extend and strengthen their links with the masses and non-party democrats." The Committee pointed out that the Party was working for the interests of the people and the nation, and sought absolutely no self-interest. The Party should not run counter to the people's will, and should stand with them and not above them.

Some of the "errors" that have accompanied the famine crisis were exposed recently by Tung Pi-wu, but this is merely one phase of current complaints, which have caused a great slump in the popularity of the regime. Heavy taxes and grain levies, conscription of labour, economic disorders of unprecedented variety and range—aggravated by the blockade and bombings—maldistribution of food, harsh and petty tyranny: these are among

I think there is only one means of egress from this situation to establish in the present year a second front somewhere in the Balkans or France, capable of drawing away from the Eastern Front 30 to 40 divisions, and at the same time of ensuring to the Soviet Union 30,000 tons of aluminium by the beginning of October next and a monthly minimum of aid amounting to 400 aircraft and 500 tanks (of small or medium size).

Without these two forms of help the Soviet Union will either suffer defeat or be weakened to such an extent that it will lose for a long period any capacity to render assistance to its Allies by its actual operations on the fronts of the struggle against Hitlerism.

I realise that this present message will cause dismay to your Excellency. But what is one to do? Experience has taught me to look facts in the face however unpleasant they are, and not to try to express the truth however unwelcome it may be. The Persian affair has in fact turned out pretty well. The joint operations of the British and Soviet forces predetermined the issue. So it will be in future as long as our forces act jointly. But Persia is but an episode. The issue of the war will not of course be decided in Persia.

The Soviet Union, like England, does not desire war with Japan. The Soviet Union does not consider it possible to violate agreements, including its treaty of neutrality with Japan. But if Japan violates this agreement and attacks the Soviet Union she will meet with a due rebuff on the part of the Soviet forces.

Finally, allow me to express thanks for the admiration you have expressed at the actions of the Soviet forces which are waging a bloody war with the robber hordes of Hitlerite bandits for our common cause of liberation.

The Soviet Ambassador, who was accompanied by Mr. Eden, stayed and talked with me for an hour and a half. He emphasised in bitter terms how for the last 11 weeks Russia had been bearing the brunt of the German onslaught virtually alone. The Russian armies were now enduring a weight of attack never equalled before. He said that he did not wish to use dramatic language, but this might be a turning-point in history. If Soviet Russia were defeated how could we win the war?

M. Maisky emphasised the ex-

the things that prompted the lament from Peking.

What is more, Socialist ideology about State controls, State monopolies, and State trading, will infallibly be regarded by the rank and file of the tax collectors not as a gift from the gods of political and economic philosophy, but merely as a means of bringing more grist to the mill.

The technicians have done a great, if temporary, job on the railways. The gospel of work is being preached with zeal but not without casuistry—"the people cannot strike against themselves, the owners"—and there is a great body of fervent faith seeking the stars. Any faith, after all, is better than none in the pass to which a great and historic people have come. But faith alone is never enough. Failure can obliterate it. And the new regime stands or falls not by the sincere faith and ideology of a handful of idealistic pedants but by what it does in coping with the economic crisis. It was a major factor in the downfall of the Nationalists—it will remain a major factor in the survival value of the new regime.

The Canton Tax Bureau Commissioner is quoted as having publicly complained that "tax assessments were 'not sufficiently democratic' and that the formula and procedure were 'inefficient.' Neither in Peking nor in Canton will euphemisms and gentle rebukes intimidate those who have outwitted all the squeezers of the past generation. In a few months heads that nodded with approval and acclaim were being shaken in dismay. In Dynastic days miscreant heads used to fall.

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A SNAP ELECTION POSSIBLE

Protest against Seretse case

Johannesburg, March 26. Delegates claiming to represent more than 1,000,000 Transvaal Africans and Indians today protested against the British Government's action concerning Seretse Khama, the Bamangwato chief-designate who has been exiled from his tribe for five years.

The resolution said that the British action was pandering to the racial policies of South Africa and Rhodesia.

The meeting, attended by 528 delegates, was called by the Transvaal branches of the African National Congress (ANC), the African Peoples Organisation, Transvaal Indian Congress and the Johannesburg Communist Party, as a "Defend Free Speech" convention.

It called for the observance of May 1 as "Freedom Day." Demonstrations will be staged to protest against discriminatory legislation.—Reuter.

Forecast of polling within six months LABOUR'S TRUMP CARDS

London, March 26.

The Prime Minister, Mr. Clement Attlee, and his Labour lieutenants may decide on a snap General Election any time in the next six months, political sources predict.

Some observers believe that a new contest might come as early as June—six weeks after the annual budget on April 18.

In the present House of Commons, Labour has an overall majority of only five votes.

The Conservative Opposition, led by Mr. Winston Churchill, would like to see the Government remain in office long enough to take the blame for what they call Socialist economic mismanagement in the past five years.

They would use their strength in Parliament to see that the Government is continuously

harassed to the brink of the precipice though not pushed over the edge.

This prospect does not attract Labour, which has the advantage of being able to dictate the timing of the next Election.

Some Government supporters believe that Labour has the trump cards in the present Parliament and can secure decisively if it plays them properly.

They predict that the weeks immediately ahead will show an improvement in Britain's overall economic position, falsifying suggestions that there would be a crisis this year.

Unions' attitude

Figures for Britain's gold and dollar reserves for the first quarter of 1950—showing progress in closing the dollar gap—will be published within a fortnight. They are expected to reflect an encouraging position.

On the other hand, if the trade unions generally stage a revolt against the wage stabilization policy the whole Government recovery plan would be wrecked.

Engineering and shipbuilding unions, who are leading the fight against the wage freeze, will soon hold a ballot on whether to strike for £1 a week increase or take their claims to arbitration.

Sir Stafford Cripps, Chancellor of the Exchequer, will discuss the wage freeze tomorrow with a delegation from the Trades Union Congress.

The TUC itself is expected to continue to back Sir Stafford—but it can apply no sanctions to its 8,000,000 membership.

Pollitt attacks Morrison

The Secretary of the Communist Party, Mr. Harry Pollitt, today described as a "farago of lies and nonsense" the declaration last Friday of the Deputy Prime Minister, Mr. Herbert Morrison, who in his statement appealed to British trade unions to get rid of Communists as soon as possible.

Mr. Pollitt declared that Mr. Morrison was the architect of the Labour Party's defeat at the General Election.

"Purging the unions of Communists," he said, "does not harm the trade unions as many sections of the Transport and General Workers Union are beginning to find out," Mr. Pollitt added.

This was at a time when the Labour Government had betrayed the principle of internationalism over the Seretse Khama case, when American bombers and air forces "are already occupying our best aerodromes" and when America, "through its demand (in Paris) on Britain fully to accept its dictate in regard to the European payments union, is trying to wreck Britain's economy."—Reuter.

WAR WOUNDED DEMONSTRATE

Munich, March 26. Several thousand angry war injured whistled and brandished crutches to howl down an official who tried to answer their grievances at a protest meeting of their organisation here today.

Also prevented from speaking was Herr Alfred Lortz, head of West Germany's Economic Reconstruction Party.

The injured had addressed a protest to the city authorities demanding enough money to exist on jobs and the dismissal in their favour of married couples who were both employed.—Reuter.

Justice needed

The Pope asked whether divine justice would longer tolerate such a "distortion of the true image of man, such an abuse of his worth, such disregard of God's will."

On this Sunday of penitence, he urged Christians everywhere to practise this Christian virtue and, realising their sins, to resolve to do better. The Holy Year would give them ample opportunity.

The Pope appealed for practical justice for those who, borne down by economic conditions, sometimes lack even the fundamental necessities.

All Christians should aid the poor and underprivileged. He prayed that from the contemplation of the Easter drama of divine expiation of human guilt there might arise concord among the nations, peace on earth and eternal blessing.

The Pope was carried in a procession into the Basilica, preceded by the Crucifix of St. Marcellus. After the ceremony the vast congregation knelt to receive a blessing given with the Lance with which, according to tradition, Christ was pierced upon the Cross.—Reuter.

FILM ACTRESS IN TROUBLE

Los Angeles, March 26. Lynn Merrick, 26-year-old American film actress who five months ago eloped with the heir to an American fortune, is today recovering from an overdose of sleeping pills, the police stated here.

The police said she told them she had family troubles.

Robert Godet, film producer son of a wealthy Rhode Island banker and insurance man, eloped with Lynn from Rome last October and married her in Paris.

Reports that his mother, the Duchess of Villars, had disapproved the marriage were later denied.—Reuter.

MASTER PLAN FOR DEFENCE OF W. EUROPE

The Hague, March 26.

The Atlantic Pact master defence plan will call for fast-ditch defences of every member nation and no immediate strategic withdrawal to a Western defence line in the event of a Russian attack.

Informed quarters, here for the Chiefs of Staff conference, said this today.

On the eve of crucial meetings of top-level Atlantic Pact military and political officials, these sources denied the popular concept that defence plans might call for falling back on a line somewhere West of the Low Countries and for sacrificing several countries to the enemy in the initial stages of any possible invasion.

"There is absolutely no Maginot line psychology involved in our plans," declared one high-ranking Western military official in an interview.

"We are not going to 'write off' any member nations and we are not going to retreat if attacked. We will defend every inch of soil of member nations."

The Chiefs of Staff, headed by the United States Chief of Staff, General Omar Bradley, will meet on Tuesday to stamp the defence plan "approved" and "top secret."

No bickering

The Atlantic Pact Standing Committee, permanent body with headquarters in Washington, has already drawn up for the chiefs an agenda which is expected to deal principally with these problems:

1. Maximum in money, arms and men which each member nation can contribute to the defence pool.

2. Unification of arms and standardising military operation procedures such as communications and battle orders.

General Bradley is tremendously pleased at the progress already made at the conference. One senior officer said: "There has been no bickering and we all see eye to eye on the principal problems—how to stop the Russians if they ever make a grab at Europe."—United Press.

PEKING SENDING OUT NEWSMEN

Seoul, March 26.

The Chinese Communist People's Republic is beginning to send out foreign correspondents.

A broadcast from Peking, North Korean official propaganda medium, said "Following establishment of diplomatic relations between China (the Peking Government) and North Korea, the New China News Agency has established a branch in Pyongyang."

No mention was made of North Korean correspondents in China.—United Press.

MOSCOW VIEW OF KMT BOMBINGS

Moscow, March 26.

A "Red Fleet" article charged today that the Shanghai bombings by the Kuomintang air force are being personally led by highly placed American officers.

The paper quoted the Chinese Agency Sin Hua as its authority and referred to the presence in Taiwan of Charles Cook and Major-General Dennis of the U.S. Air Force.—Associated Press.

AIRPORT STRIKE

Paris, March 26.

One hundred and fifty Air France security workers at Orly, the largest Paris airport, today staged a sit-down strike.

They claimed that about half the total number of security workers were paid a security bonus while they were not.

Most of them belong to the Communist General Confederation of Labour.—Reuter.

ADMIRAL'S WARNING

Washington, March 26.

Vice-Admiral Gerald Bogan warned today that Western Europe might quit if war started and the United States Navy's first big job would be to carry out a Dunkirk-type evacuation.

Admiral Bogan contended that failure to build a super aircraft-carrier able to launch atomic bombers may cost the U.S. dearly. The Navy was not ready for war, he said.

Admiral Bogan attacked the Air Force's strategic bombing plans and said the Navy should discount entirely the theory of an atomic blitz conducted from safe, secure bases in our own country.

The next war, if it came, would be long and hard. Speaking of European members of the Atlantic Pact, he said: "We cannot lean or count on their continued determination to resist aggression as our allies. The cankers and ulcers in their bodies are politically moribund now, but essentially volatile."

"It may well be that the first major task of our Navy in a future conflict will consist of re-converting the role first performed by an impromptu armada of heterogeneous British craft at Dunkirk."

Admiral Bogan said today's United States Navy was not ready to fight a future war. "We need time badly. Given that, we may prepare ourselves."

He advocated converting all modern battleships, including the Missouri, to missile-launching ships.—United Press.

AID FOR GREECE TO CONTINUE

Athens, March 26.

General Lawton J. Collins, the United States Army Chief of Staff, told reporters here that the Greek Army after their victory over the Communist guerrillas would continue to receive American aid in material and training.

Before leaving for Ankara today after a two-day visit to Greece, General Collins met Field Marshal Alexander Papagos, the Greek Army Commander-in-Chief.

The General expressed satisfaction at the successful cooperation between the American and British Military Missions and the Greek Army Command, the Greek news agency reported.—Reuter.

ALY AND RITA OFF TO FRANCE

Ostend, March 26.

Prince Aly Khan and his film star wife, Rita Hayworth, left Ostend today for a stay in Cannes.

Prince Aly, who recently broke a leg in a skiing accident, was taken by ambulance to the Ostend Airport and was carried by stretcher aboard his private De Havilland "Dove" plane, which had been flown out from London yesterday.—Reuter.

Prague, March 26.

Two life imprisonment sentences and several other long prison terms ranging up to 27 years have been passed by a Moravian State court on a group of men charged with spying, treason and attempted murder, the Czech Press announced today. No details were given of the number of men accused. The trial began last Monday.—Associated Press.

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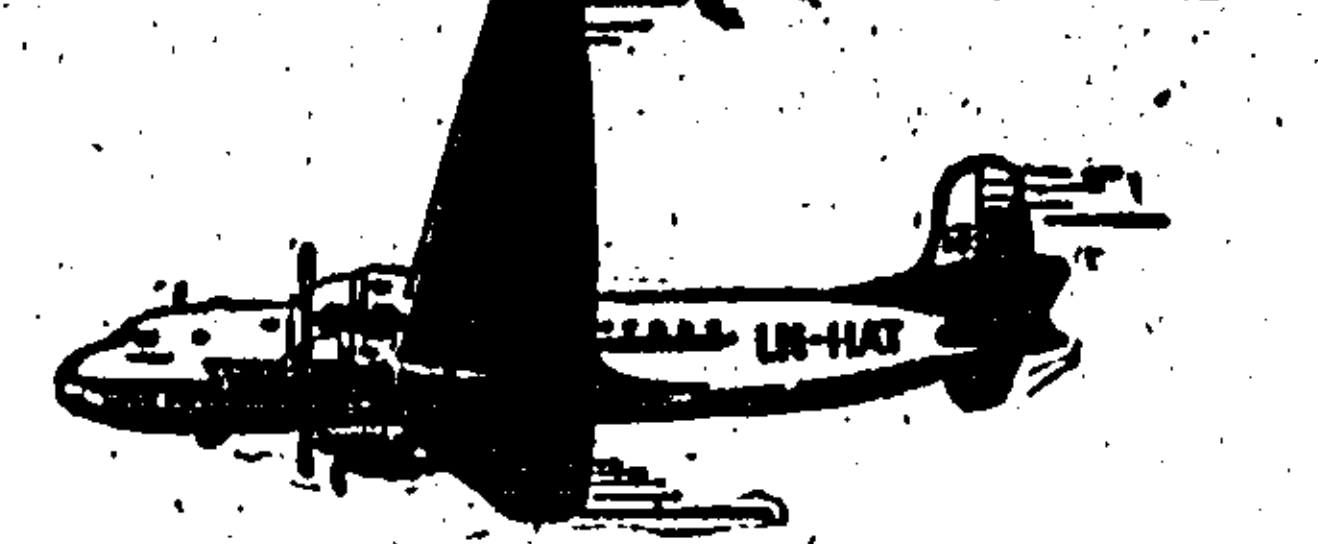
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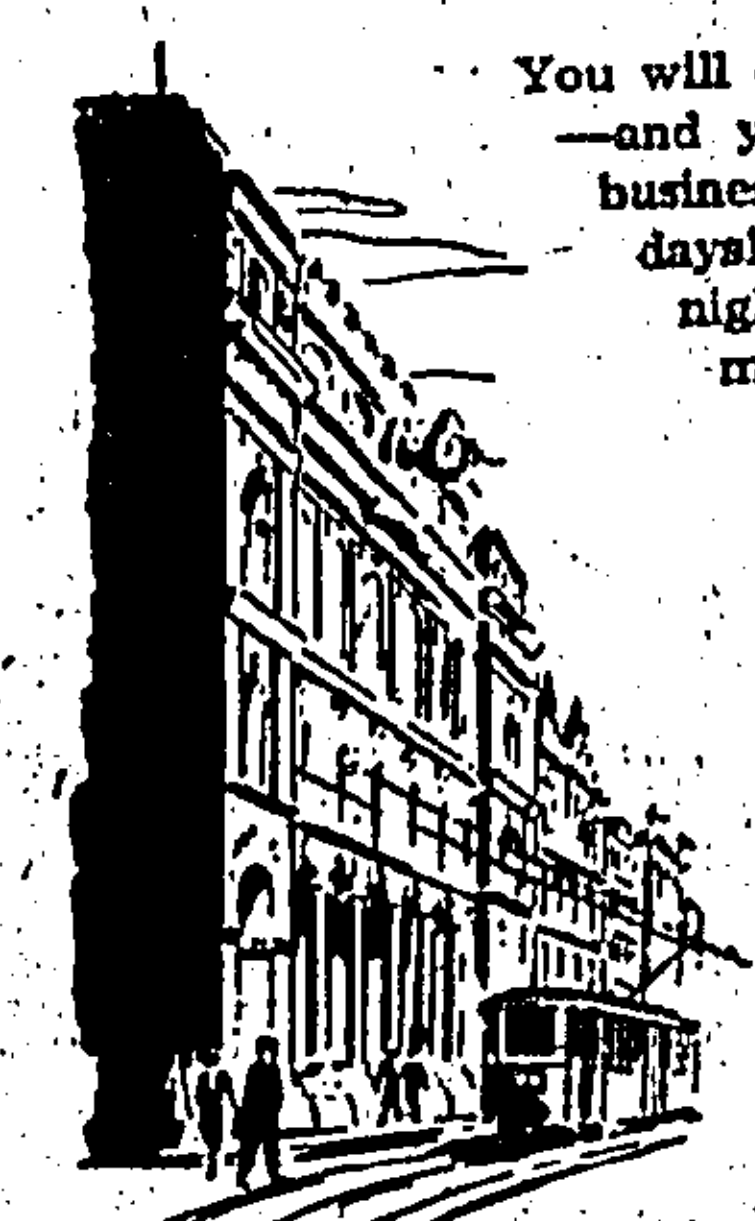
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Pontiff deplores state of world

Vatican City, March 26.

The Pope, in a broadcast address at a Passion Sunday ceremony in St. Peter's Basilica today, deplored a world in disorder in which all wholesome principles seem disturbed.

"There is no excuse of ignorance to mitigate the sin and the indecency which, spreading in a universality of moral degradation, have contaminated even those sections of society traditionally free from them, such as country folk," he said.

The lack of morality, the Pope said, had become part of the economic and social life of the people, inflicting the most serious wounds on mankind under the pretext of a false humanity.

"The right to exist according to crime under the pretext of tolerance and humanity is breaking all the bounds imposed on man by his sense of respect for public morality and dignity and is causing the breaking of matrimonial ties, rebellion against legitimate authority, suicide and the taking of the lives of others."

The Pope recognised, "with a heart full of tender compassion," that in the present conditions the misery and loneliness of people living in squalid conditions are among the main causes of immorality.

He asked his listeners to view the immensity and the gravity of the sins "flooding the earth and spoiling the work of God," especially those committed "against the humble and defenceless, against the family and human society."

He particularly stressed the "serious nature" of those sins which were "knowingly prepared and coolly executed which multiplied until they became crimes against an entire nation."

Justice needed

The Pope asked whether divine justice would longer tolerate such a "distortion of the true image of man, such an abuse of his worth, such disregard of God's will."

On this Sunday of penitence, he urged Christians everywhere to practise this Christian virtue and, realising their sins, to resolve to do better. The Holy Year would give them ample opportunity.

The Pope appealed for practical justice for those who, borne down by economic conditions, sometimes lack even the fundamental necessities.

All Christians should aid the poor and underprivileged. He prayed that from the contemplation of the Easter drama of divine expiation of human guilt there might arise concord among the nations, peace on earth and eternal blessing.

The Pope was carried in a procession into the Basilica, preceded by the Crucifix of St. Marcellus. After the ceremony the vast congregation knelt to receive a blessing given with the Lance with which, according to tradition, Christ was pierced upon the Cross.—Reuter.

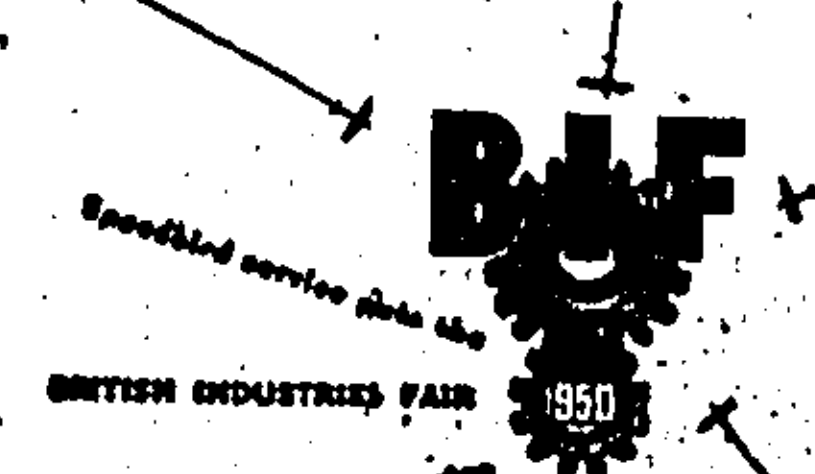
AUSTRALIA AND JAPAN

Melbourne, March 26. Though Australian sentiment is still strongly anti-Japanese, the country cannot forever hold Japan at arm's length, the Conservative Sydney "Morning Herald" said in a leading article today.

"Whether we like it or not, the Japanese are our neighbours in the Pacific. By degrees we have to learn to treat them as such again," the newspaper stated.

"Trade is being being resumed and its development will eventually necessitate the exchange of representatives."

The paper was commenting on the announcement of the Immigration Minister, Mr. Harold Holt, that Japanese Blue-Backed Fishery would be given an entry visa to Australia for two months.—Reuter.



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LABOUR LEGACY FOR MENZIES GOVERNMENT

Sydney, March 27.

A perplexing problem facing the new Menzies Government is the unscrambling of a disputed socialised medical plan begun by the Chifley Labour regime.

Millions of Australians have paid taxes toward a national welfare fund from which they have received no medical benefits because most doctors boycotted the plan.

But some doctors today also object to the first proposals of the new Government to water down the "socialistic" aspects of the old plan.

The new proposals provide, in the main, for modification of direct free medicine and medical treatment in favour of subsidies to community health services. They also provide subsidies for friendly (or benevolent) societies.

As the Health Minister, Sir Earle Page explained, his new plan aims to help those who help themselves.

The new Government proposes to provide free medicine, just as the Labour regime did but only in the form of vital life-saving and life-sustaining drugs which are mostly very costly.

There is another major difference in the proposals: Under the old plan, an official formula limited the freedom of doctors to 648 specific prescriptions which the Government felt would cover most medical situations and stabilise the cost of the plan.

Sir Earle Page's first new proposal, which the Australian medical profession is discussing now, establishes a list of about 60 drugs only. It does not attempt to set up specific prescriptions.

Simplified list

The new list would include single preparations such as sulfa drugs; anti-biotics such as penicillin; streptomycin, aureomycin, chloromycetin, insulin,

diphtheria and tetanus toxoids; anti-malarials and oxygen.

Thus, if a patient needs penicillin in an emergency, the doctor can prescribe it and the Government will pay the pharmacist for the prescription. But if a doctor should prescribe some patent medicine not on the free list, the patient would have to pay for it himself.

"What is needed is not so much free bottles of medicine, as the raising of the general standards of the health of the nation," Sir Earle contended.

Two popular forms of medical insurance would stand to benefit from the Government's proposed subsidy plan. They are the friendly (or benevolent) society, for those earning less than £550 a year, and the medical benefit fund, for those earning more than £550. Two of the biggest societies are underwritten by the British Medical Association.

The doctors against the subsidy maintain it would force people in lower income areas to join the subsidised societies and thus "conscript" doctors in such areas to the line with the society.

Would have to join

Then again, people wouldn't get any benefits unless they joined a friendly or medical society, even though they were paying for it indirectly in social service taxes, it is contended.

The Labour Government collected £90,000,000 in social service payments during the 1948-1949 fiscal year. Mr. Chifley's budget for 1949-1950 provided for another £90,000,000 to be collected in the current year.

Now, if the Menzies medical project is to be basically a contributory scheme, Australians will still want to know what is going to happen to all the tax money they paid into the national welfare funds, out of which, in addition to social security benefits such as old age and invalid pensions, they were promised a national health plan.

"If the Government plans to give the country a real health scheme, it will have to dip heavily into the credit balance of the national welfare fund. If not, then the public will want a lot of its social services payments back—in lower taxation," said a Sydney Daily Telegraph editorial.—United Press.

No partings

From Brisbane comes a report that will interest many prospective emigrants.

Arthur Morley reports that British working-class immigrants from their pets have paid £250,000 since the war to take dogs and cats to Australia.

The market value of the pets was estimated by veterinary experts of the Australian Quarantine Service at £25,000.

A spokesman for the Quarantine Service in Sydney says: "Migrants are cheerfully paying 30 to 50 guineas for their dog's fare. Some of the dogs are valuable, but most of them are non-descripts."

The Melbourne branch of the Service has announced that it cannot accommodate any more pets in its quarantine depot. A Pekinese dog from the liner Delphi had to be sent on to Sydney for its three-month quarantine period, imposed by law to prevent the introduction of animal diseases.



'MIND YOU, THE SELECTION COMMITTEE IS MUCH MORE DIFFICULT THIS YEAR!'

Japanese opposed to U.S. keeping of bases

Tokyo, March 27.

Representatives of nine major provincial newspapers believe that most Japanese are opposed to the United States retaining bases in this country after a peace treaty is signed.

There have been reports that the United States would like to keep some bases here, and a survey completed today by the United Press is the first effort to get nationwide reading on the Japanese reaction to the idea.

Individual Japanese in the past have expressed favour for the idea in some cases while others have spoken against it.

The survey was made by submitting questions to Tokyo bureau chiefs of large papers published throughout Japan. More than 20 were asked to participate but replies came from only nine.

The replies indicated that the Japanese are not in favour of a foreign power having bases in Japan after a peace treaty is signed. A variety of reasons was given.

Five of the Japanese newsmen believed that any foreign bases in Japan would be a violation of Japan's new constitution which renounces war and provides that Japan will not have any military forces. Four thought that the United States retention of bases here would inevitably lead to trouble between Russia and Japan.

Two were of the opinion that Japan would remain completely neutral and world opinion would serve as her protector. One reply pointed out that the Japanese would probably not have anything to say about whether bases were kept here or not but said the Japanese did not want them even though they are opposed to Communism.

Enough of war

Two replies said the Japanese had had all war they wanted, were scared to death of war and did not want to have anything to do with anybody's military organisation for war that would draw them into another war.

Here are some of the comments: "The people in general do not seem to favour having any

foreign military bases in Japan. They would, however, favour the idea of having the United States maintain bases in Japan rather than the Russians."

"U.S. bases in Japan would give the Soviet Union reasons to make charges against Japan and may lead Japan into war."

"People would like to live up to their new constitution which completely renounces war. They were fed up with war."

"Japan would not like to enter the cold war. One of the factors influencing the people in arriving at their decision opposing U.S. bases in Japan is that they are surrounded by Soviet-influenced nations and territories."

Most of the replies indicated that the Japanese feel sure their country will become the battleground in the event of war between the United States and Russia. All expressed the hope that such a war could be prevented and Japan could be spared the horrors of war again.—United Press.

ERITREA AMBUSH

Asmara, March 28.

Shifta bandits ambushed a Public Works Department lorry on the Massawa road today, seriously wounding three native constables and three escorts with hand grenades and rifle fire.

One Italian on the lorry was uninjured. Bandits made an earlier attack on a native bus near Adi Ugril, 32 miles from Asmara, firing on the passengers and killing one of them. A police constable was wounded.

Police are now patrolling both areas.—Associated Press.

Ultimatum in Leopold crisis

Brussels, March 28.

Albert Devezé today handed the Belgian Social Christian Catholic Party a four-day ultimatum to abandon King Leopold III or face the electorate early in May.

M. Devezé, Premier-designate and leader of the Liberal Party, told a Press conference that he would ask the Regent, Prince Charles, to dissolve Parliament if the Social Christians refused to accept a national solution of the nation's two-week-old governmental crisis.

M. Devezé is the Defence Minister in Belgium's present Cabinet. As such he is due to attend a meeting of Atlantic Pact Defence Ministers this week at The Hague.

He told correspondents that for this reason he would not negotiate with political leaders beyond Thursday, when he intends to leave for Holland.

The dissolution of Parliament automatically calls for a general election in 40 days.

The 68-year-old Liberal leader did not explain what he meant by a national solution, but under present circumstances this can only be Leopold's abdication in favour of his 19-year-old son, Prince Baudouin.

M. Devezé's own formula is believed to be for Leopold to return for a while—time enough to be vindicated—under a promise to abdicate once he has been re-enthroned.

A shrewd negotiator, M. Devezé merely said he wants a formula acceptable to all three major parties. They are his own Liberal group, which holds the balance in the House of Representatives, the strongly pro-Leopold Social Christians and the avowed anti-Leopold Socialists. Nearly all Liberals favour abdication.—Associated Press.

NEW PARTY IN BAVARIA

Nuremberg, March 28.

Representatives from all parts of Bavaria today founded a new political party, the "Refugees Bloc," to fight in the State elections in the autumn.

The Party's programme calls for the peaceful return to Germany of the territories lost in the East through the war. Till that occurs it will work for equal rights for refugees inside the present West Germany.—Reuter.

Over 1,000 Maltese, mostly women and children, sailed for Australia today on board the Government ship *Queen Victoria* to join their husbands and fathers. A similar number left for Australia at the end of February.—Associated Press.

MOUTH OF WHANGPOO SILTS UP

Tokyo, March 28.

Shanghai, the city built on mud, is being strangled by the ooze from which it arose.

A report from the U.S. Navy says mud from the mighty Yangtze is choking off the sea approach to what was once the third busiest port in the world.

The man who wrote the report and mariners who have studied it say that within a year Shanghai will be inaccessible to commercial shipping of any importance, regardless of the Nationalist blockade.

Thus Shanghai will be cut off by nature from the trade which made it grow into a city of five to six million people. It faces the prospect of deteriorating into an isolated inland provincial centre.

The Yangtze for years has been carrying countless thousands of tons of mud to the sea.

The silt settles at a point where the Yangtze pours into the East China Sea.

Only constant dredging in the past kept the Yangtze's mouth open so that big ships could go 65 miles up-stream and into the Whangpoo River to Shanghai.

Dredging ceased when the Communists took Shanghai in May, 1949. Now the South Channel, the only usable approach left, is rapidly turning into a mud bank that will be passable only to junks or other small vessels.

The North Channel is the only other entrance to the Yangtze. Large ships stopped using it in 1931 due to silting.—Associated Press.

U.S. trade contacts with Indonesians

New York, March 26.

An official of the American-Indonesian Corporation, which has been trade representative of the Republic of Indonesia, said the head of his company is working out an arrangement with the new United States of Indonesia for continued operations in several private fields with USI co-operation.

The Economics Minister of the USI, the union which now includes the Republic, told his Parliament at Jakarta that the contract with the American-Indonesian Corporation had been cancelled.

He added that his Government will compensate Matthew Fox, American businessman and film executive and head of the Corporation, for the money he had put into Indonesia's fight for independence. This figure has been reported at more than half a million dollars.

Mr. Randolph Feltus, an associate of Mr. Fox in the Corporation who recently returned from Indonesia, issued the following statement through his New York office:—

"Mr. Fox has been in Indonesia for several weeks at the invitation of Prime Minister Mohammad Hatta to establish a new relationship in which he can serve Indonesia in its new status.

"The old contract, which was with the Republic of Indonesia, served a vital purpose in the Republic's fight for freedom. Mr. Fox's new arrangement will take a different form and will have to do more with private business than exclusively with the Government as provided in the old contract, which set up the American-Indonesian Corporation to effect all Republican Government buying and selling transactions in the United States.

"On a non-exclusive basis, but with Government co-operation and guarantees, Mr. Fox will operate in several private fields on a substantial basis. Announcement will be made in Indonesia when details are settled."—Associated Press.

Singapore, March 28.

The new Governor of Sarawak, Mr. Anthony Foster Abell, arrived here today on his way to Kuching to take up his appointment. Mr. Abell succeeded the late Mr. Duncan Stewart, who was assassinated by a young Malay at Sibu last December.—Reuter.



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NEW THEORY ON LIFE'S ORIGIN

London, March 26.

A theory that life originated on the shores of the ancient seas under conditions which can never again be duplicated is engaging the attention of British scientists.

It is regarded as one of the most interesting contributions to science's greatest mystery in this century.

TRAGEDY OF TWO SISTERS

New York, March 26.

The police broke into the flat of two elderly women recluses today and discovered among the mountain of accumulated junk, one dead and the other babbling incoherently.

The body of Mrs. Frances Richter, aged 63, was found under the bed in the cluttered four-room apartment. Her sister, Mrs. Margaret Hahn, aged 63, was discovered in the kitchen mumbling to herself. She was taken to Bellevue Hospital for observation.

Neighbours seldom saw Mrs. Hahn. They said Mrs. Richter did all the marketing and was very friendly with the neighbours but never let them enter.

A mass of newspapers, old magazines and assorted rubbish filled all the four rooms. The police broke into the flat after the superintendent complained they did not answer when he went to inspect the flat's fixtures.—United Press.

Robot weatherman

A robot weather man developed by a team of radio experts and physicists in the New Zealand Department of Scientific and Industrial Research, promises to revolutionise meteorological methods in that and perhaps other parts of the world.

Alan Harte, in Wellington, says that the "weatherman" is built to operate for months on end, even for years without receiving attention.

In the South Pacific countries an automatic weather watch and reporter will be of great advantage. In the Northern hemisphere a close network of manned reporting stations is feasible, but in the Southern hemisphere land masses are far separated and the few islands are uninhabited, and mostly uninhabitable.

The robot takes no account of bleak rocks, bitter cold and blizzards; it functions regardless of these. It can be given virtually unlimited storage battery power and be kept charged by wind-driven generators.

The prototype robot set up at the central meteorological office in Wellington has been faithfully reporting at three-hourly intervals for weeks now. Wind strength, wind direction, barometric pressure, temperature and humidity are all recorded. Robot No. 1 will probably be dispatched to the uninhabitable Snare Islands, 150 miles South of New Zealand.

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Bolivian coup nipped in the bud

La Paz, March 26.

The Bolivian Government announced today that it had foiled a Communist revolutionary plot planned to start next Tuesday under the leadership of a high Russian military chief and French Communist agents.

The leaders, together with a number of others, were arrested last night while holding a meeting to arrange final details, the communists added.

The revolution was planned to break out simultaneously at several points throughout the country while the President, Mr. Marmorio Urriolagoitia, was addressing a Congress of schoolmasters at Sucre, 250 miles from La Paz, the capital.

The communists said that the entire country is quiet.—Reuter.

Patronising Christianity

By THE REV. SIDNEY M. BERRY, D.D.

It is a kind of inverted tribute to Christianity that men intent on quite other things should attempt to use its authority or influence for their own purposes.

In the period of His earthly life, men sought to crown Christ as King, not because they were willing to render obedience to Him, but because they believed His Kingdom would favour their political plans.

Many others in the generations since He came have adopted the same attitude. Rival schools of political or economic thinking adopted to use Christianity as a counter in their game of securing adherents.

The patronage of Christianity is a theme which runs through the centuries of its history. The blatantly materialistic schools of thought in modern times have only varied that theme in dismissing Christianity as a dope. They have sought to patronise denial in the interests of their idol worship of the State.

From one point of view all this is a childish game, but it has its tragic side. Whenever men turn to Christianity in order to use it for their own ends they are demeaning the highest things in life and indulging in a form of practical blasphemy.

No one has ever made a start on the road which leads to a living faith unless he has come to God to learn and to obey.

To attempt to use God rather than to surrender oneself to be used by Him is perilously near to the "graveside" of all sins.

May it not be one of the reasons for the present state of the world that the face of God in hidden because men are intent on using Him for their own ends, and not seeking to find and to do His Will?

It is "the pure in heart who see God," these who are single-minded in their passion to understand and to follow.

Vandenberg plan for U.S. foreign policy approved

Washington, March 26.

Senator Arthur Vandenberg's proposal for a non-partisan commission to study long-range American foreign policy won enthusiastic support in the Senate today.

Several members were particularly interested in the Michigan Republican's suggestion which proposed that the Commission consider the problem of dealing with Western European nations after the Marshall European recovery programme expires in 1952.

Among the supporters of his proposal were Republicans Alexander Smith and Democrats John Sparkman, Virgil Calman, Chapman Willis Robertson and Lister Hill.

House voting on the omnibus foreign aid bill for the next fiscal year is to begin on Tuesday. Adherents of the provision that would provide \$200,000,000 for the start on President Truman's "Point Four" programme. Some feel that odds are against its approval.

There is nothing to indicate that Senator Vandenberg's suggestion for the "non-partisan" commission is connected with the

The fifth of six articles on:

The Chinese Revolution

The victory of the Communists in China does not mean simply the ordinary change of one Government for another, a thing which merely affects China itself. The Communist victory is a great revolution in the life of one-fifth of the inhabitants of the world. A revolution of this sort lets loose expansive forces which may bring the whole of the rest of the world into danger.

Great Britain, though several thousand miles away from China, is nevertheless its neighbour. For Hong Kong is British territory. So is Malaya, which is dangerously near China. Though Great Britain has laid down its former imperial position in Asia it has still the obligation to play a part in preserving peace and security throughout South Asia. It is thus heavily affected by China's revolution. That is the reason why the British Government has taken its elaborate precautions in Hong Kong.

The Communist leaders in China are not simply politicians. They have brought into politics many of the emotions which normally are found in religion. Unquestionably, many of them think of themselves as leading a crusade for the "liberation" of the world. The Chinese Communists are especially interested in the liberation of Asia.

They have drawn their view of the outside world chiefly from reading Marxist literature. Few of them have travelled abroad. Those who have been in foreign countries see them distorted and distorted by what they have been taught by their reading.

Communist view

The orthodox Marxist teacher of Asia has taught that for more than a century the Western capitalists have battered off the Eastern countries which either have become slaves in the case of India and Burma, or semi-colonies as in the case of China. From this miserable condition the Eastern countries have been rescued one after another by nationalist movements. These have put an end to the actual political subjection of Eastern countries to the West. It has been Communist tactics to co-operate with Nationalism in its struggle against the West.

The Communists continue their analysis further. They see that when Eastern countries are emancipated politically a new phase begins. Power may then pass into the hands of the local bourgeoisie. The Communists say that this bourgeoisie then organises a police State and becomes as savage an exploiter of the masses as were the Western capitalists.

This, say the Communists, is what happened in China after the Kuomintang seized power and asserted its authority against the Western countries, compelling them to renounce the privileges which they had won by force. According to the Communists, it is happening also in India. But in India, they say, there has not even been a genuine liberation from the West. The Communists pretend that the transfer of power by the British was a blind. Really, they say, there was a secret understanding between Western capitalists and the Indian Congress to go into partnership in exploiting the Indian masses.

The Communists accuse Mr. Nehru and Mr. Patel, the two principal leaders of India, of being stooges for the West.

The Communist Party believes that it is its historical mission to rescue the masses of Asia from this tyranny of exploitation. As its first step it has set up an

By Windrush

"Eastern Cominform" with headquarters at Peking, which will be the High Command for the crusade.

Dangerous crusade

That is how it appears to the Communists. A less biased observer might see that what the Communists really aim at doing is to use the discontents in Asia in order to establish their own political power over as wide an area as possible. The typical Communist State whenever it has been set up in the West itself is a police State on a scale quite unparalleled. There seems no reason to think that the Communist State in China will be any different in this respect from Russia.

What may make the Communist crusade more dangerous is that the ambitions of the Communists will more or less coincide with the traditional Nationalist ambitions of the Chinese

people. It has been the fashion in recent years to think of the Chinese as a peaceful people. This is not really correct. In fact the Chinese, before the coming of the West, were an active and expansionist political force. Originally, the Chinese State spread from a small area in North China until it subdued the non-Chinese peoples of the South. For a period of many centuries, the Chinese Empire spread its power sporadically far over Central Asia. Nearly 2,000 years ago Chinese armies actually reached the Caspian Sea. Large Chinese navies have appeared at Ceylon and in the Arabian Sea. In the past century there has been a great outward drive, quite unorganised but formidable, by the Chinese people into SE Asia.

The Chinese Government has, at various stages in history, been accepted as overlord by Burma, Nepal, Tibet, Annam, and many other Asian countries now independent. The Kuomintang, in its later period, had begun to revive the ambition of reasserting the ancient authority of China. China's neighbours will fear that the Chinese Communist Party, under the pretence of spreading the Communist faith, may, in fact, be impelled, at least partly, by this old imperialist ambition. (To be continued)

CROSS-ROADS

By Guy Ramsey

Today the Church of England is controlled by a Parliament many of whose members are not even nominal Christians.

When (if the present trend) "modern" thought prevails, the State becomes totalitarian and, instead of vaguely Agnostic, actively anti-Christian.

That is the question asked by Cyril Garbett, Archbishop and Metropolitan of York, in a large and even a great book published today: Church and State in England.

Will the Church either disestablish itself or be disestablished—eliminating from the national life an integral and important element which has endured for centuries, reducing the historic "C. of E." to the status of just another Church permitted to exist in Britain?

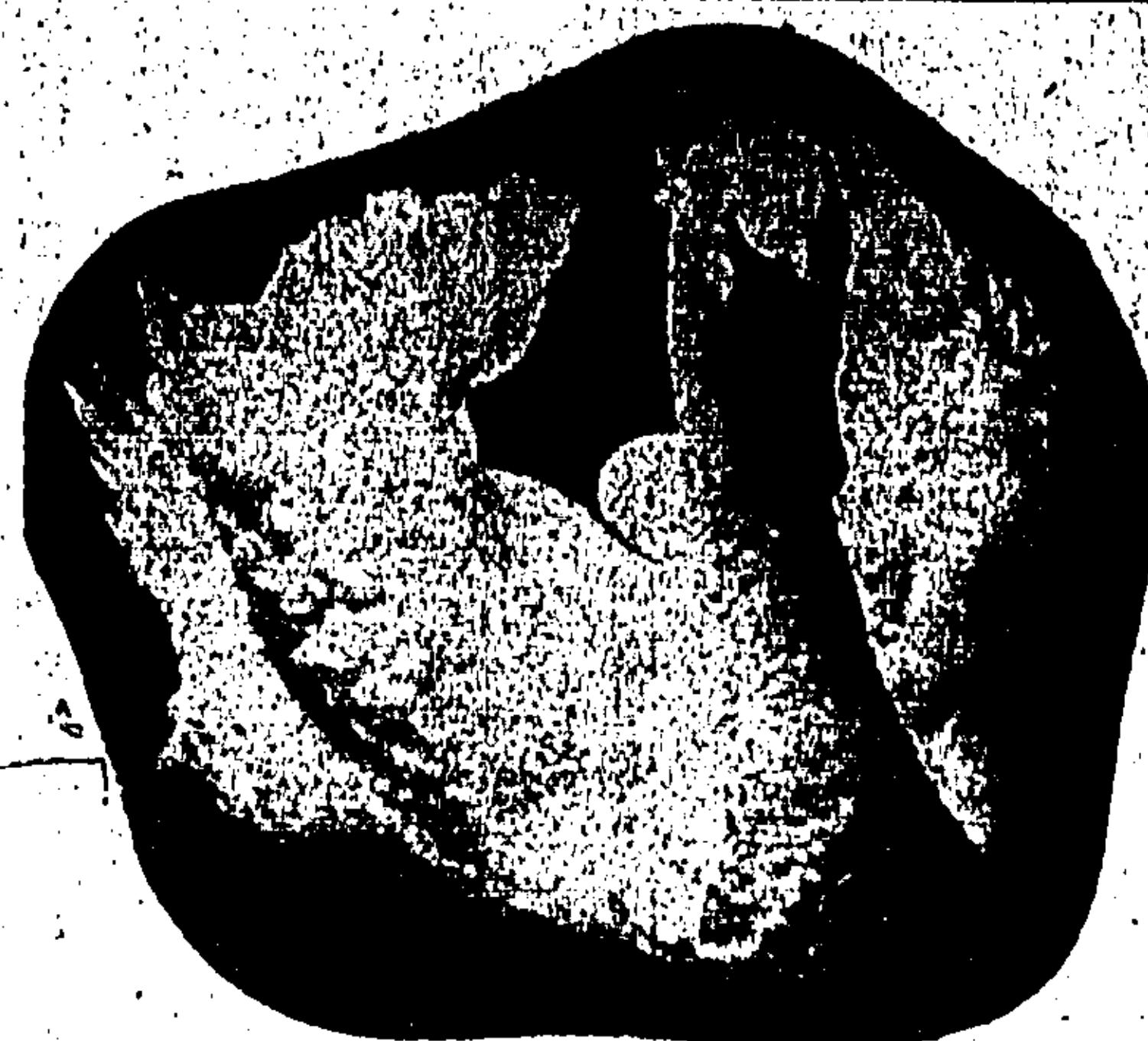
The Archbishop poses his question and gives his answers against a background of history, tracing the strengths and weaknesses, the rise and fall and rise

again of the Church in its conflict and co-operation with the State.

There is no clear-cut answer to the modern dilemma—any more than there was to any of the historical cross-roads; there are lions in every path: lions of economic privation (which mean fewer men to fight the good fight, not less money for lazy Churchmen to have a good time); and the even more dangerous lion that a Church disestablished may have more freedom in theory but less in fact to fulfil its function than it has when voked to the State.

Cyril Garbett himself warns the cold print with his wide sympathy, his deep tolerance, his recognition of the good and the bad in other Churches as well as in his own.

His voice is the voice of sanity and balance crying for reform from within rather than for a solution from without; for a patient, careful programme, gently but resolutely undertaken and carried through, whereby the Church shall continue her work more greatly than ever before.



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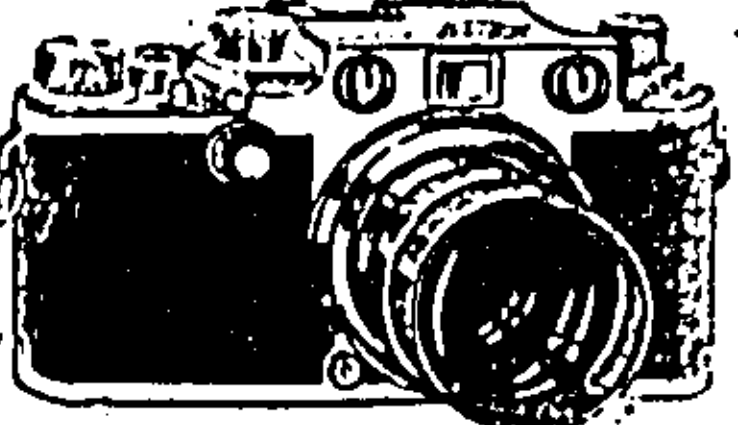
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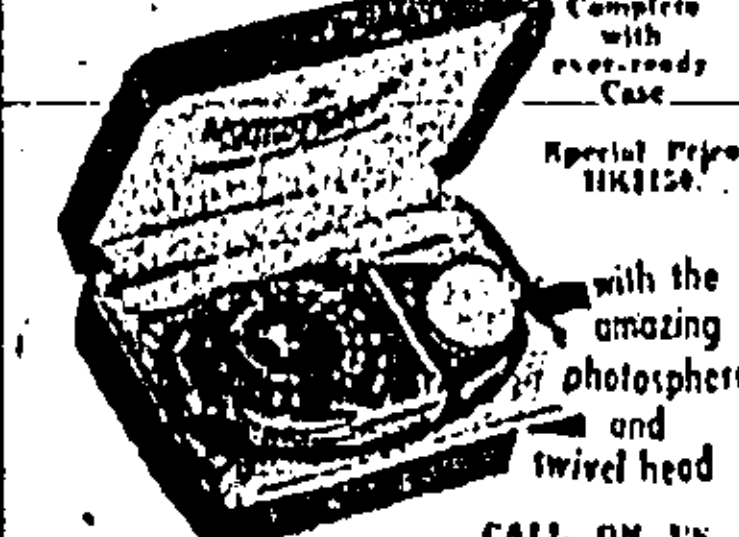
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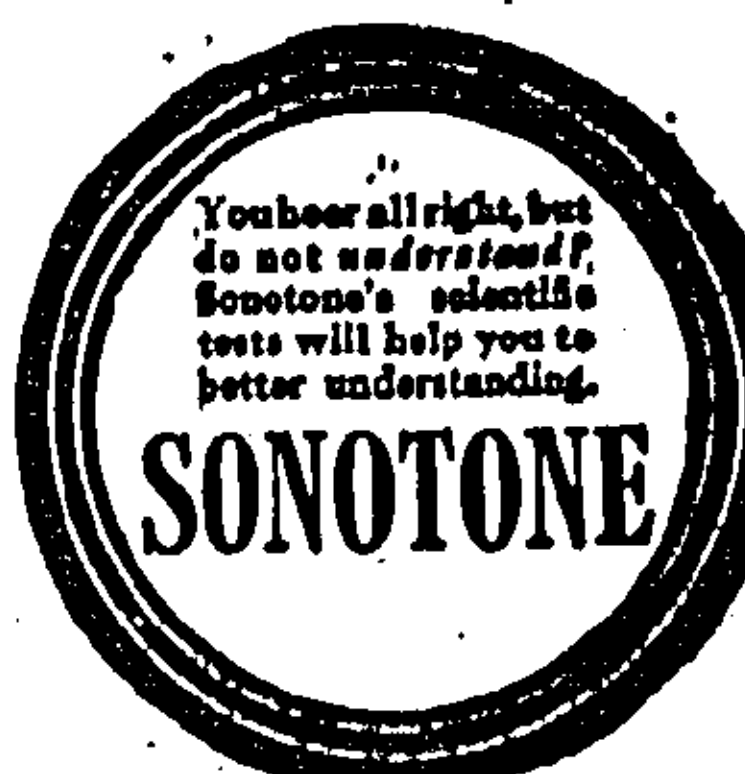
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Vipers as bedmates



The Fakir Brahmin, famed in France for his weird per-
formances, recently started a new endurance test at
Nantes, Western France. He had himself sealed in a glass
coffin with 20 vipers and intends to stay there without food
for 24 days. (AP Photo).

Australia out to promote dollar trading with U.S.

Canberra, March 27.

Australia's new Menzies-Fadden Government
realizes the need for new and bolder schemes
to promote dollar trade with North America.
The Commerce and Agriculture Minister, John
McEwen—who was an Australian delegate to
the United Nations 1945 San Francisco con-
ference—said that the dollar problem is not
a short-term one.

Prospects of greater imports
from North America would re-
main bleak unless present
dollar earnings improved, he
said.

Mr. McEwen revealed that some
of the Government's plans to in-
crease Australia's dollar income
include:

1. Efforts to open new mar-
kets in all hard-currency areas.
This includes South America
where an Australian trade mis-
sion is now working.

2. New methods of spinning
wool for the North American
trade.

3. New developments in West
Australian fisheries to increase
exports of frozen lobsters to the
United States.

4. Increased production in the
tuna-canning industry to meet
American demands.

5. Government assistance to
orchid growers to help them de-
velop the quality and quantity of
plants for export to the United
States.

Exports to U.S.

Mr. McEwen said Australia's ex-
port trade with North America—
now near the \$100 million a year
mark—is double the pre-war
level.

Australian sales to other hard-
currency countries, such as Bel-
gium and Switzerland, are now
also higher.

Australia had not diverted
essential supplies away from
sterling countries to dollar
sources because Australia was
helping Empire dollar problems
by supplying goods to soft-
currency British Dominions which
otherwise would have to be
bought with dollars. (United
Press.)

The Soviet Union and its
satellites abstained from voting
on the Declaration. It is assumed
here that they will do the same
on the Covenant.

They have argued that the
documents do not go far enough
in opposing "fascism" and alleged
oppression of colonial peoples.
But most Commission members
believe Russia also objects to the
Covenant's prohibitions of arbi-
trary arrest, imprisonment with-
out trial, and other practices of
totalitarian States.

The Covenant's main provi-
sions aim at protecting the in-
dividual's liberty, privacy and
just rights in every State. They
forbid torture, slavery and moral
indignity.

Signatory States will be morally
bound to observe these rules.

The Commission is to discuss
means of implementing the
Covenant, including an Australian
proposal for an International
Court of Human Rights to hear
complaints of alleged violations.

Russia and some other States
have objected to any enforcement
machinery, on the ground that it
would interfere in a nation's
domestic affairs. (Reuter.)

AIR TRAGEDY IN
NEW GUINEA

Melbourne, March 26.

A converted Lockheed Hudson
bomber, which crashed into a
house at Lee, New Guinea, set-
ting it ablaze, killed a man and
a woman last night, according to
a report received by the civil
aviation authorities here today.

The pilot, Harold Gibson, 40,
of Victoria, was seriously injured
but is believed today to be out of
danger. Lee was special pilot to
the former British Prime Minis-
ter, Lord Baldwin, for two years
while serving with the Royal Air
Force.

The dead man was Mr.
Stanley Flarey, a Qantas Empire
Airways official.

The bomber swerved into his
house when it got out of control
while making a crash-landing.

(Reuter.)

Vicar's fast against the hydrogen bomb

Bexhill, March 26.

The Anglican Vicar of this
South East coast town, the Re-
verend R. S. Waterson, began
a fast against the hydrogen
bomb today—Passion Sunday.

He will fast—for 12 hours
a day—to back his demand
for the establishment of a
National Committee to nego-
tiate with the United States
and Russia to outlaw the H-
bomb.

He ate a breakfast of a
boiled egg and bread and but-
ter this morning. No other
food passed his lips until
darkness fell when he sat
down to a light evening meal.

The Reverend Waterson has
written to the Prime Minister,
Mr. Clement Attlee, telling
him that he is calling all
Christian people to a solemn
fast and prayer to continue
until Easter Day. (Reuter.)

AFGHAN SHAH
VISITS PERSIA

Tehran, March 26.

Mohammad Zahir, Shah of
Afghanistan, arrived in Tehran
by air today. He was welcomed
at the airport by the Shah, Premier
Mansoor, the Diplomatic Corps
and dignitaries.

He will be an official guest of
the Iranian Government for four
days and will stay at the Royal
Palace. (Associated Press.)

Parcels for Britain are slackening off

Sydney, March 27.

Australian response to the Food for Britain Fund
has slackened considerably during January
and February of 1950, according to the general
organising secretary, Harry Simpson.
There has been a 30 per cent drop in the normal
turnover after Christmas.

Contributions seem to be
falling off mainly from a
section of the public which
sends parcels to unknown per-
sons through factory group
subscriptions and dance or
social benefits.

Mr. Simpson said people with
relatives and friends in Britain
are continuing to send parcels
because they know what and how
much they are needed.

"However, the man in the street
is really fogged," Mr. Simpson
said. Most Australians are un-
decided about Britain's need for
food parcels. They are confused
by pre-election statements saying
Britons were now very well fed,
and European recovery as well
as Germany's de-rating.

"If the Germans can do it, why
can't Britain?" thinks the Aus-
tralian worker for whom a voluntary
contribution of a couple of shill-
ings weekly is no small gesture.

Since it was opened on Novem-
ber 3, 1947, the Food for Britain
Fund has delivered 2,500,000 par-
cels in Britain, and hopes to pass
the 1,300,000 mark this year.

Mr. Simpson said contracts with
London packers call for 5,000
food parcels daily. If orders con-
tinue to drop in Australia, he
said, costs will be forced up. The
Fund could not operate efficiently
on a small scale. Outside of the
British Ministry of Food, Mr.
Simpson said, the FBF is probably
the biggest bulk buyer of food-
stuffs in Australia.

Bank agents

"Even a small increase like
1/8 per cent will generally
disorganise completely our or-
ganisation. We will have to
start at the bottom of the lad-
der again—it will take us
months and months," the Fund
secretary said.

At present 2,115 banks through-
out Australia act as honorary
agents of the fund. They accept
payment of 10 shillings per parcel
and issue labels on which sub-
scribers write the name of friends
or relatives.

"Australians would be glad to
hear that parcels are no longer
required and that the Fund can
be closed," Mr. Simpson said.
He added, however, that as long
as the need is there they would
keep on sending parcels.

"Information to stimulate in-
terest for the Fund must come
from the United Kingdom because
Australians don't know what
Britain's food position is like,"
said Mr. Simpson. He felt that if
the need for parcels still exists,
then there have been insufficient
statements made in Britain to
convince the Australian public.—
United Press.

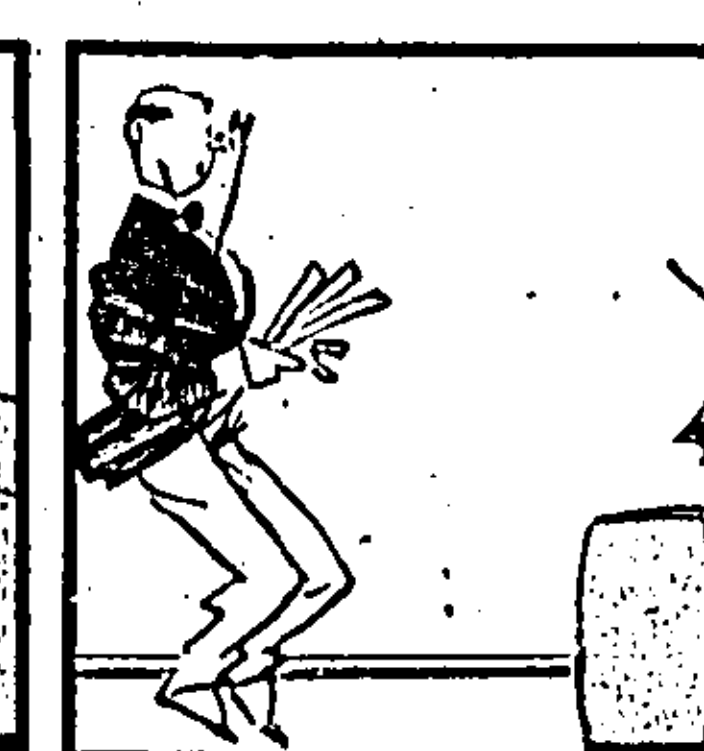
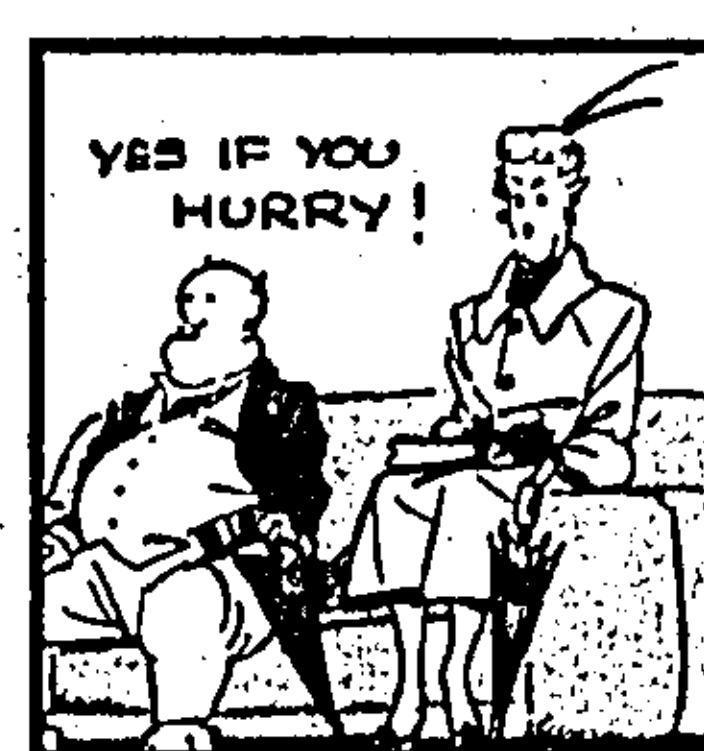
BRITON KILLED NEAR CALCUTTA

Calcutta, March 26.

The President of the Bengal
Chamber of Commerce, Mr. A. L.
Cameron, was shot dead this
morning near Chinsurah, about
23 miles from Calcutta.

Mr. Cameron, who was a partner
in the Andrew Yule Com-
pany, was returning to Calcutta
from Chinsurah when he was
caught in a communal riot in a
mill area through which he had
to pass. (Reuter.)

POP



MANDRAKE THE MAGICIAN

By Lee Falk and Phil Davis



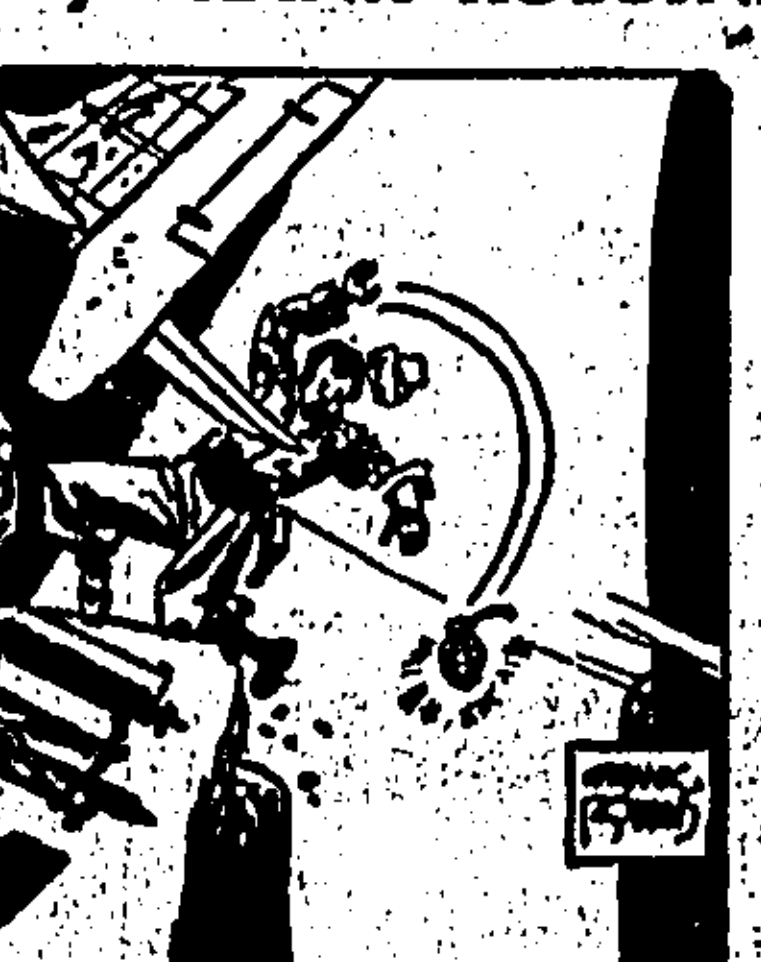
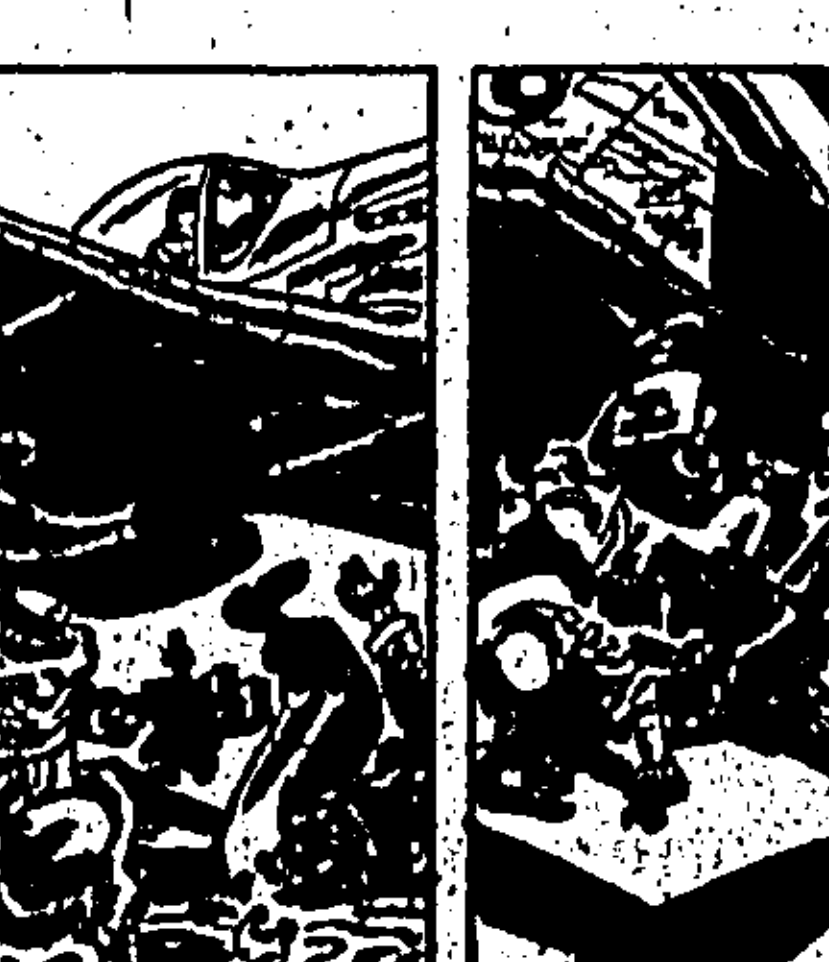
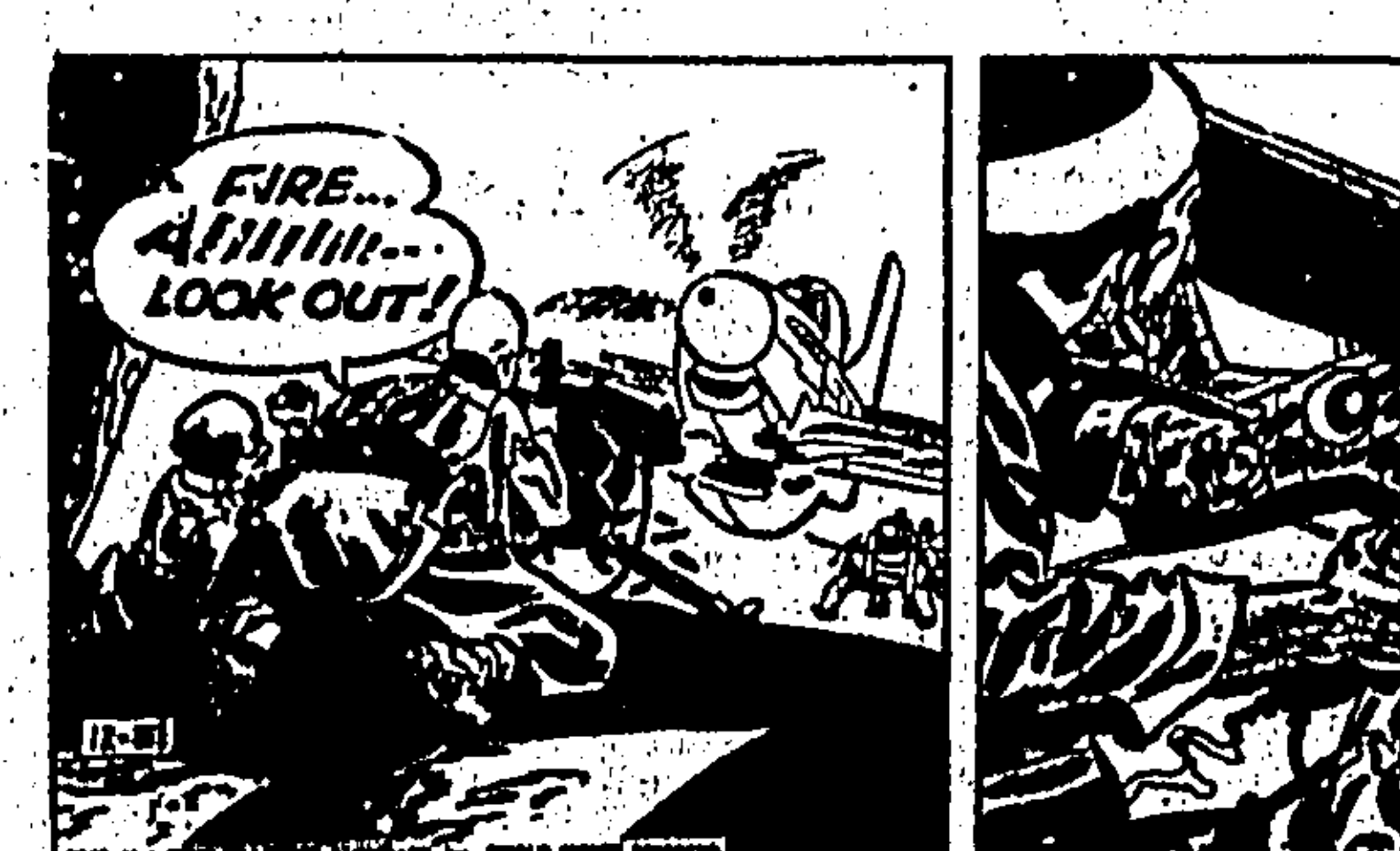
RIP KIRBY

By ALEX RAYMOND

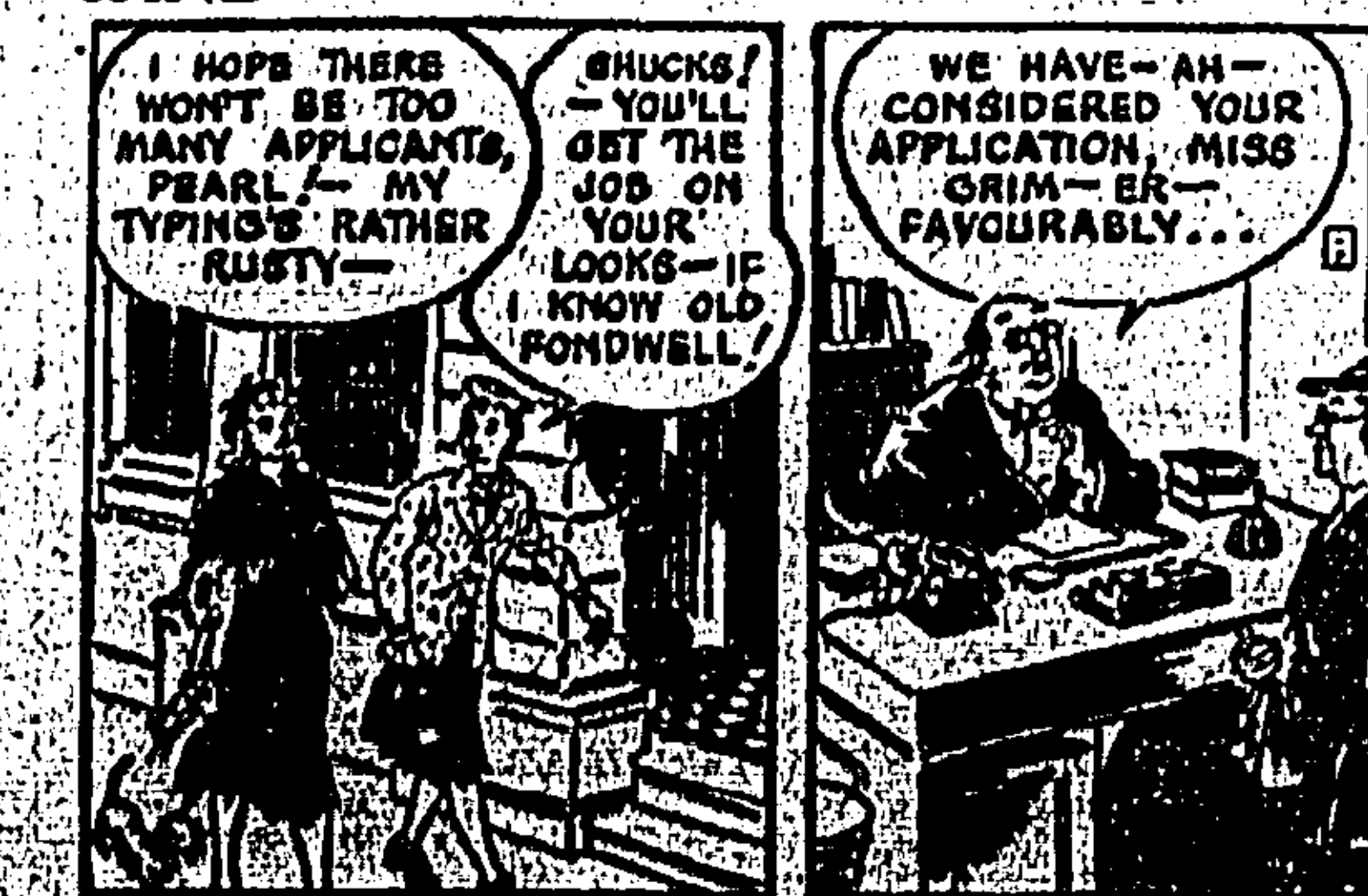


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By FRANK ROBBINS



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Ship	ARRIVALS	SAILINGS
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"VAN HEUTS"	8th Apr.	13th Apr.
"TJISADANE"	21st Apr.	26th Apr.

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MANILA, EAST & SOUTH AFRICA & SOUTH AMERICA

Ship	ARRIVALS	SAILINGS
"BOISSEVAIN"	13th Apr.	10th Apr.
"STRAAT BOENDA"	13th Apr.	14th Apr.
"STRAAT MALAKKA"	13th May	1st June
"TEGELBERG"	13th May	1st June

JAPAN

Ship	ARRIVALS	SAILINGS
"BOISSEVAIN"	9th Apr.	17th Apr.
"STRAAT BOENDA"	2nd May	14th Apr.
"STRAAT MALAKKA"	31st May	18th May
"TEGELBERG"	31st May	18th May

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Ship	ARRIVALS	SAILINGS
"HOOGKERK"	10th April	6th Apr.
"MEERKERK"	early May	14th Apr.
"RYNKERK"	early May	early June

Through B/L issued to Mediterranean and Northern European ports.

JAPAN

Ship	ARRIVALS	SAILINGS
"HOOGKERK"	5th Apr.	17th Apr.
"MEERKERK"	1st May	early June
"RYNKERK"	early June	early May

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FINANCE AND COMMERCE

SCHUMAN SAYS:

ECONOMIC UNION WITH GERMANY PREMATURE

Paris, March 26.

M. Robert Schuman, the French Foreign Minister, said tonight that suggestions for a Franco-German economic union are still premature. An economic union cannot be attained before a certain degree of political understanding has been reached, M. Schuman said in a speech to the National Committee of the Popular Republican Movement.

While stressing that there had been a rapid evolution in French policy towards Germany during the past 18 months, M. Schuman said: "We cannot skip any of the rounds in Franco-German relations."

Observers here believe that these remarks were a reply to recent suggestions by the West German Chancellor, Dr. Konrad Adenauer, for a Franco-German economic union.

It is still too early perhaps to do away with the barriers between France and Germany, Mr. Schuman said. "We cannot evade the political problem by talking only economics," he added.

The French Foreign Minister said that one of the principal conditions for Franco-German understanding is Germany's adherence to the Council of Europe. France does not consider the Saar question to be an obstacle to an understanding. The Saar problem will be reviewed with the whole German question when peace negotiations are begun, M. Schuman said.

"We shall then have to take account of (1) the wishes of the Saar population; (2) the rights of France; and (3) the result which have been secured," said M. Schuman, adding that in any case there would be no unilateral decision.

Planning for future

Referring to the Council of Europe, he said: "We cannot undertake yet a transfer of sovereignty but we can envisage it. First we must obtain for the European Assembly the military authority that she needs and improve relations between the Assembly and the Committee of Foreign Ministers."

"We must put out the shelters in great haste," the French Foreign Minister said. "But that does not prevent us from planning for the future. First Europe wishes a lasting solution to the Franco-German problem, then the French Union of Nations and finally, perhaps, the Atlantic community, which would remove from the Atlantic Pact its too exclusive military character."

The French Foreign Minister said that the present lull in the international situation is perhaps due to certain resistances which the Soviet Union has encountered and also to the difficulties which Russia has met in China.

U. Tin added that he believes the United States is ahead of the Soviet Union with atomic weapons.—Reuter.

U.K. clothes to cost more

London, March 26.

More increases in clothing costs were forecast here today when the Raw Cotton Commission announced rises ranging from a half-penny to four-pence a pound for certain types of raw cotton.

Some American qualities are up by a half-penny to a penny per pound; some Brazilian, East African, West African, and Haitian by a half-penny; certain Egyptian types by two-pence; West India by three-pence; and East India by two-pence to four-pence.—Reuter.

Burma to draw from new loan

Rangoon, March 27.

U. Tin, Burma's Finance Minister, said today that the Government would draw on the new £6,000,000 Commonwealth loan only to the extent that ordinary revenue resources proved insufficient.

The loan, backed by Britain, Australia, India, Pakistan and Ceylon, was announced yesterday. U. Tin told a press conference that the Government would continue to exercise the same stringent economy as at present.

The Government's ultimate aim was not merely to achieve a balanced budget within the shortest possible time but also to produce enough surplus to repay such part of the loan as was actually drawn so that posterity may not be burdened with a loan used for current internal expenditure.

U. Tin said that the intercession had severely affected the Government's budgetary position. The year 1948-49 had closed with a total deficit of 10.09 crores of rupees (a crore equals 10 million rupees).

With taxation already at a high level the Government did not see any possibility of increasing its revenues by further increases and, therefore, decided to seek the loan of 15 crores of rupees from Commonwealth countries to meet the deficit.

The £6,000,000 loan now offered was repayable in two years and there were no conditions attached to it, U. Tin added.—Reuter.

SOCIALISATION IN EUROPE

Witten, March 26.

Exports of European Socialist Parties today began a five-day conference here on problems of closer European economic co-operation.

German Socialists will put forward suggestions for the socialisation of all centres of Europe's heavy industries.

Among other subjects for discussion are the possibilities of extending the international type of authority now existing in the Ruhr to other European basic industries.—Reuter.

AMERICA TO BUY ISRAEL SHOES

Haifa, March 26.

A large order for Israel manufactured shoes has been placed by American importers.

The Israel Rubber and Shoe Factory "Hamagash" in Haifa, Bay, has been given the order by America for tens of thousands of dollars, according to informants. This is the first shoe export from Israel.—Associated Press.

APL EARNINGS

San Francisco, March 26.

American President Lines' first week reported 1949 net income of \$2,017,558, equal to \$2.49 a share on class A stock.—Associated Press.

SHIPS COLLIDE

Hamburg, March 26.

The United States steamer Algonquin Victory, 7,002 tons, and the Icelandic motor ship Godafoss, 2,905 tons, were in collision today in dense fog in the Elbe Estuary. The Hamburg ships' reporting centre reported tonight: "There was neither damage nor casualties and the two ships arrived here tonight under their own steam.—Reuter.

SHIP MOVEMENTS

San Francisco, March 26.

The steamship Sea Serpent arrived from Manila. The tanker Caraco sailed for Japan.—Associated Press.

Money Market

US dollars dropped somewhat heavily yesterday when the market re-opened after the week-end.

From HK\$6.301 in the morning, sellers forced the rate down to \$6.25 by lunchtime and it recovered only one point before the market closed.

TT opened at HK\$4.24. At lunchtime it was \$6.31, but it recovered to \$6.33 by closing time.

Sterling and Australian pounds improved over the week-end and yesterday were quoted at HK\$15.25 and HK\$12.05 respectively.

Plasters dropped to HK\$11.80 a 100 after opening at \$12.50.

Ticals were unchanged at HK\$25 a 100.

NEI Coiders dropped to HK\$11.50 a 100 after opening at \$12.

STANDARDISING OF RAILWAYS

London, March 27.

Railway chiefs from Britain's African colonies are meeting Colonial Office officials here today to discuss plans for standardising all railway rolling stock in British Africa.

Delegates to this London conference, including observers from Ceylon and Malaya will not make decisions, but will take back observations and recommendations to their respective colonies.—Reuter.

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GERMAN WAGE DEMANDS

Duesseldorf, March 26.

West Germany's 5,000,000-strong Trade Union Federation will probably open a campaign for higher wages in the immediate future, Dr. Hans Boeckler, Chairman of the Federation, said here today.

Dr. Boeckler, who has opposed inflationary wage claims since the occupation, said that labour circles felt that the expected drop of food and consumer goods prices had not been placed. Therefore, unions would probably ask for more pay for their members to restore the proper equilibrium between prices and wages.

The unions would present their case with all the vigour at their disposal, he said.

Dr. Boeckler added that they had already put their views strongly at a recent conference with the Economic Minister, Professor Ludwig Erhard.

They also claimed that the cost of living index used by the Government did not present a true picture of the price structure. The official cost of living index, taking 1938 as 100, was 154 for a working class family of four in February. This compared with the official figure of 168 for February last year.—Reuter.

Britain's motor car exports

London, March 26.

More cars were manufactured in Britain and more exported, during January than in any previous month, the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders announced.

A total of 10,000 cars and 4,900 commercial vehicles, were made each week in January—500 more cars per week than the previous record in October, 1949, but 100 fewer commercial vehicles than the November record.

Export figures also set records; 30,700 cars and 10,300 commercial vehicles were shipped out of the country in January—both figures higher than in any previous month.

Australia bought the most—11,800 cars and 3,850 other vehicles. Canada came next, with 5,750 cars, compared with eight in January, 1949. No figure was given for commercial vehicles to Canada.

Shipments to the United States are handicapped by high boat charges, and rates are now under review by Shipping Conferences.—United Press.

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Cargo is considered as being accepted in good order and condition by consignees, unless broken, chafed and damaged packages are left in the Godown for subsequent examination by Messrs. Goddard & Douglas in the presence of consignees at 10 a.m. on April 1, 1950.

To comply with the General Bonded Warehouse Regulation, consignees must have a Revenue Officer in attendance when dutiable goods are examined.

All damaged cargo claims against the steamer must be presented to the undersigned on or before April 18, 1950, or they will not be recognised.

No fire insurance will be effected.

No claims will be admitted after the goods have been taken delivery of ex ship's side or alternatively ex the Hongkong & Kowloon Wharf & Godown Co.'s premises unless a joint survey has previously been effected.

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"General Gordon"	Arr. Apr. 28	Sails Apr. 29
"President Wilson"	Arr. May 2	Sails May 3

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"President Harrison"	Arr. Apr. 4	Sails Apr. 5
"President McKinley"	Arr. Apr. 13	Sails Apr. 13

TO NEW YORK, BALTIMORE & BOSTON via PACIFIC COAST & PANAMA

"President Johnson"	Arr. Apr. 15	Sails Apr. 16
"President Fillmore"	Arr. May 13	Sails May 14

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"President Buchanan"	Arr. Apr. 16	Sails Apr. 18

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"BENVANNOCCH"	"	1st Apr.
"BENATTOW"	"	17th Apr.
"BENNEVIS"	"	20th Apr.
"BENCROUCHAN"	"	30th Apr.
"BENWYVIE"	"	9th May
"BENCLEUCH"	"	11th May
"BENVORLICH"	"	27th May

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"BENCLEUCH"	"	"
"BENVANNOCCH"	Genoa, Avonmouth, London, Rotterdam, Hamburg & Hull	4th Apr. 25th Apr. 12th May
"BENNEVIS"	"	"
"BENCROUCHAN"	Liverpool, Glasgow, Dublin, Havre, Antwerp & Rotterdam	3rd Apr. 3rd May 30th May
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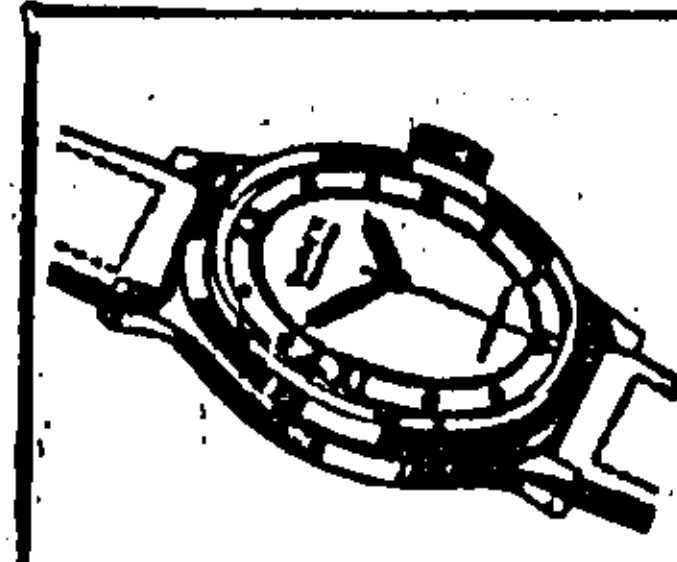
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HONG KONG, TUESDAY, MARCH 28, 1950.



TAY BEATS LEE IN BADMINTON FINALS

Robert Tay, the 1948 Colony Singles Badminton champion, regained the title which he lost to C. K. Lee last year, defeating Lee 15-7, 15-6 in this year's final at Recreio last night.

Miss Ulian Khoo, holder of the Ladies' Singles title, successfully retained her title for the second year in succession, with a two-set win of 11-1 and 11-4 over Miss Marie Ribeiro.

Benzin Saw and K. Y. Tso became the first Schoolboys' Doubles champions when, in spite of a gallant resistance by La Salle's Johnny Pomeroy, Jr. and F. Allaye, they emerged victorious in two sets, 15-6 and 15-12.

The Junior Mixed Doubles semi-final between J. A. Soares and his wife and A. D. Brown and Mrs. M. Ribeiro was the only game of the evening that went the full distance of three sets. With A. D. Brown smashing effectively and Margie Ribeiro in brilliant form at the net, the Brown-Ribeiro combination came out worthy winners, 15-9, 10-15 and 15-5.

The Senior Men's Singles final, which was billed as the main attraction of the evening, fell below expectations, lasting only 31 minutes. Lee was conspicuously below his usual form, most of his shots, which are normally unerringly accurate, going astray. Tay's greater experience and courtcraft stood him in good stead. Allowing his opponent no scope to utilise his devastating smashes, by resorting to short services to his opponent's front foot, he forced Lee to hit wide or return the services with half-court lobs.

The first set was featured by an almost complete absence of lobbing as Tay smashed and drove every shot that came over his side. Tay went to a lead of 3-1, then 9-3 and, after exceeding one more

point, took four points in a row to lead 13-4. After Lee had taken two more points, Tay scored the needed two points for set with two good smashes.

The second set saw Tay again jump to a lead of 6-1. But Lee came back with some beautiful sideline smashes that fell right on the line to reduce the deficit to 4-0. Services changed hands repeatedly at this stage until the score reached 8-5, when Lee made three errors in succession to allow Tay to advance his lead to 11-5. After scoring one more point with a sideline smash, Lee sent out four shots in succession to give Tay the match and the title.

Ladies' singles

In the Ladies' Singles event, Miss Marie Ribeiro found a much improved Ulian Khoo against her. Playing at her top form, with forcing lobs and drives to the baseline, Ulian ran up to a lead of 5-0 after losing her service four times. Marie got one point but Ulian ran six points in a row on her next service to take the first set.

Some fight was put up by the Ribeiro champion in the second set, when she held Ulian to 2-0, and then 4-4. Services then changed hand six times, before Ulian added another three points. There were again three overs of services. Marie scored one more point. Services then changed hands again five times, when Marie cracked up and Ulian piled up four more points for set and match.

FANLING GOLF

Winner of the Stapleford competition played on the Old Course at Fanling last week-end was Mr. W. C. Hung (10) with a total of 38 points.

The final of the G. M. Young Cup was played on Sunday and resulted in a win for Jardines who defeated Butterfield and Swire by 5 points to 3.

The final of the Mixed Four-somes was also played on Sunday when Mr. and Mrs. C. J. Kotela beat Miss D. Cuthbertson and Mr. E. T. McEntee by 6 and 5.

The entries for the Shanghai Visitors Cup will close on Sunday.

Full results

Schoolboys' Doubles Final: B. Saw (A) and K. Y. Tso (St. Paul's) beat J. Pomeroy, Jr. and F. Allaye (La Salle), 15-6, 15-12.

Ladies' Singles Final: Miss Ulian Khoo (Chinese YMCA) beat Miss M. Ribeiro (Recreio), 11-1, 11-4.

Junior Mixed Doubles Semi-final: A. D. Brown (St. Theresa) and Mrs. M. Ribeiro (Recreio) beat J. A. Soares and Mrs. Soares (St. Theresa), 15-9, 10-15, 15-5.

Tonight's games

At Club de Recreio
7.30 p.m. Colony Inter-Club
Junior Mixed Doubles League
Final Chinese YMCA v St. Theresa

THE WING FORWARD IN RUGBY

London, March 26.

Marked influence of the wing forward in postwar Rugby has strengthened the opinion of many of the game's leading personalities that excessive attention is being paid to loose play by back row forwards.

There was a time when these back row men, packed tightly, exerted their full weight in the scrummages and stayed down until the scrum half had set his backs in motion.

Now, the average wing forward is essentially a speller. He rarely gives an honest shove, preferring instead either to lean on the scrumage or hover on the fringe, ready to pounce on the opposing scrum half immediately the ball clears the heels of the rear rank.

His very presence tends to limit the scope of open play outside since frequently the scrum half is not given the room in which to start three-quarter movements.

Consequently, many matches are spoiled as a spectacle by this confusion and indecisive play around the scrumage, which exasperates the purist who delights at the sight of backs in full flight.

The solution to the problem lies in tactics. No wing forward would stand a chance against the scrum half time to fling out the quick, clean heel which gives the ball, unhampered, to his partner.

Therefore, until packs concentrate on quick heeling and halves introduce more skill into their play, the wing forward will remain primarily a frustrator of open Rugby. The new instructional film, which it is hoped will become available by August, will be accompanied by speakers' notes, suitable for classes of schoolboys or for international players. The opening part of the film shows the late Barry Holmes, England's fullback last season, fielding, catching and kicking to touch. —Reuter.

GERMAN VETERAN BEATS DROBNY

Alexandria, March 26. Gottfried Von Cramm (Germany) won the men's singles title of the International Lawn Tennis Championships here. Von Cramm reversed a previous defeat when he beat Jaroslav Drobny, self-exiled Czech, by 18-6, 6-3, 9-11 and 6-4 in the final, which lasted two and a half hours.

Drobny beat Von Cramm in straight sets in Cairo two weeks ago.

In the final of the women's doubles Mrs. Pat Todd and Miss Gertrude "Gussie" Moran (United States) beat Mrs. A. Bossi (Italy) and Miss Gem Hoahing (Britain) by 6-4 and 7-5.

Adrian Quist (Australia) and Miss Moran beat Drobny and Mrs. H. Weiss (Argentina) by 6-2, 6-0 to win the mixed doubles title. —Reuter.

DAVE SANDS TO FIGHT "BOY" BROOKS IN SINGAPORE

Sydney, March 27. Dave Sands, Australian holder of the Empire middleweight title, will fight "Boy" Brooks, welter, middle and lightweight champion of the Orient in Singapore on April 14.

Sands' manager, Tom McQuire, said today that he had called an acceptance of an offer of A£1,000 and return fares for Sands and himself to Singapore from the Stadium manager, Mr. R. Aziz.

McQuire added that he has planned to take Sands to London in May. —Reuter.

COMMANDOS WIN

In a first division football game at Casuarina Bay yesterday Commandos beat Royal Navy by 2-0.

Hunt Club have a good run

The meet of the Hong Kong Polo and Hunt Club took place at Beas Stables on Sunday under sultry conditions of dull weather with heat. The vogue was "coats off" when a field of 20 riders moved off to the rousing twang of the Huntsman's Horn carried by "Buffy" Maitland.

The line had been laid by Major A. J. Mann with an obvious practised eye of the lie of the land containing as many variations and surprise packets as could be wished for, as well as giving a good assembly of spectators an entertaining view of the chase.

The field went peeping through Homestead Orchard and over several early ditch jumps to emerge safely to the other side without leaving an Absalom behind in the branches.

Crossing Beas river they swung right and cantered along the Valley's grassland to the paddy fields which made for slow negotiation until the main road was crossed near Dills corner from where Staff Sergeant Hay led us a merry pace to the first check.

Here it was learned that Captain Wesson had had the ill luck to cast a shoe while Mrs. Cayford had pulled up to kindly give a lead over the tricky bits to the stubborn Eastern Diamond.

The second line had much of the felt country about it with the steep ups and downs of Hadfield Hill to come with, in passing it was nice to note Lt. Walker, "a pic," helping his mount up the incline.

After passing through Saddle Pass into Beas valley again all

were ready for a breather at the second check. However, the way the field went off on the last line showed the ponies had plenty in reserve.

Fine stretch

There was an excellent stretch of grassland along the South downs, which Lt. Col. Symonds and Major Madox were seen to take in great style, but when some of the leaders had over-run the trail it was left to the "man with braces" to show the way across the valley via paddy fields and paths.

From thereon the homestretch offered splendid going and the winner of the day was Staff Sergeant Hay (No. 52), with Staff Sergeant Hay in the saddle.

Fringing the golf course the hunt ran on to a spirited finish at the Airstrip after several riders had mistaken a billock grandstand of spectators for the winning post. Well up were Staff Sergeant Hay, C.S.M. Hill and a new member, Miss Farrier.

The rest of the field included Lt. Col. Symonds, Capt. Wynne, Capt. Jones, Lt. Walker, Lt. Ward, Miss Terry, Major Mann, Lt. Benson (R.N.), Mrs. Cayford, Gunner Brockbank, Mr. Maitland, Capt. Wesson, Mr. Grieve, Sergeant Jackson, Sergeant Hall, Capt. Martin and Major Madox.

SPORTS GOSSIP

With the lawn bowls season fast approaching and the annual meeting of the Lawn Bowls Association held yesterday, clubs in the Colony are making preparations for the coming season. With this in view, it is worth taking a look at the movements of various players.

A. W. Hirtcock, bowls convenor of the Prison Officers Club last season, will not be playing for the Stanley Club and is throwing his lot with the Hong Kong Football Club. Hirtcock is a very useful bowler and is considered one of the best at Stanley.

Another bowler, I. Urquhart of the Kowloon Bowling Green Club, will also be playing for the Hong Kong Football Club. Urquhart is a former bowler. Kowloon Cricket Club will be losing two of their regular skips. One of them is J. Orem, the

well-known police sportsman. Orem will be leaving the Colony on retirement and will not be available for the season. In his younger days Orem was a footballer of repute and also a useful cricketer.

Another bowler, Frank Goodwin, is away on leave at present. Frank has been a pillar of the KCC bowls team for a number of years and his place will be hard to fill.

Kowloon Bowling Green Club will also be hard hit in that A. J. Hall, the triple interporter, has left the Colony on retirement. Added to this, J. McKelvie, one of their skips, is on leave. A. E. Atkins, President of the Club, will not be available as he will be leaving the Colony shortly.

The many bowlers in the Colony will learn with regret that Mr. A. E. Coates, a former champion and interporter, is at present in hospital. Mr. Coates is also the lawn bowls convenor of the Craighower Cricket Club.

The Police Recreation Club will also be missing some of their bowlers. W. E. Hollands, one of the oldest members of the Club, has been skipping a police rink for many years. Mr. Hollands will soon be leaving the Colony on retirement.

J. M. Forrest, another Police skip, will not be available. One of the best bowlers of the Club he will be retiring from the Police force and will be going home.

CLASSIFICATION OF PONIES

The following alterations to the Pony Classification List were announced by the Hong Kong Jockey Club last night:

To Class 1A: (3) Highlight, To Class 1B; (2) Barbarian, To Class 4; (1) The Populists, To Class 3; (8) Shun Lee, To Class 1; To Class 6: (1) Topper, To Class 7; (6) Tunny, To Class 8; (7) Fly, To Class 7; (7) Haryard.

The figure within parentheses indicates the pony's previous class.

HOLLAND'S WIN IN HOCKEY

Amstelveen, Holland, March 26. The Dutch hockey team today beat Belgium 2-0 in Amstelveen.

The only goal was scored by the Dutch inside left, Frankens, in the 26th minute of the first half. —Associated Press.

BILIARDS

Last night's billiards results: Ching Sing (Chinese) beat China Sing Sing (Chinese) 2-0. South China Chinese Association beat Eastern 2-0.

CANTABS TIPPED TO WIN THE BOAT RACE

London, March 26.

A 1,000,000 people will line a four and a quarter mile stretch of the River Thames on Saturday for the greatest free sporting spectacle in the world—the annual University boat race between Oxford and Cambridge. For the 16 hefty oarsmen, matching muscle and watermanship along the gruelling winding course, there will be no cups, medals or prizes.

They will have spent three months of self-denial and hard work, sweating at the oars through the fogs and rain of winter and spring, to weld themselves into machine-like perfection—all for the honour of a Blue, the hall-mark of achievement in sport at the Universities.

Though an estimated 1,000,000 people line the tow-paths and vantage points, there is no charge for this annual event, which costs each University boat club about £1,800.

Allowing an average stroking rate of 30 to the minute over an average time of 20 minutes for the course, this works out at the rate of about £2 per stroke. A new boat costs £250.

The race itself, rarely produces a thrilling finish, though in 1877 there was a dead-heat, and last year Cambridge got up on the post after being led most of the way, but there is always a terrific tussle at some point along the course.

There are two 90-degrees bends in favour of the Middlesex side, and one of 180 degrees in favour of Surrey, and the race usually develops into a struggle for the inside of these bends, particularly for the long Surrey one.

Vital bridge

The Surrey boat has to hang on grimly in the knowledge that it has the longest corner of the race in its favour, if it can only keep level until it is reached. For this reason the Surrey station is usually chosen by the toss winner those days, though Middlesex was favoured in the 1949 race.

Hammerhead Bridge, one mile, five furlongs from the start, is the point where the race is usually won and lost, for it is difficult to keep all round the outside of the Surrey bend, particularly in rough water.

Cambridge have been hot favourites with the tide-way experts, but a comparison of the full course trial times has caused some revision of opinion.

In the final trial, Cambridge were only 10 seconds faster than Oxford, but allowing for the better conditions this leaves the issue wide open.

Cambridge are a very strong crew, with an average weight of 12 stone, eight pounds, but Oxford, averaging 12 stone, five pounds, have impressed with the skilful handling of their craft in rough water.

The Espin Cup Competition, which is a very popular affair with our bowlers on Home Leave, again took place at the Wansstead Bowling Club. Our team last year was captained by Mr. Lew Whant, and although they failed to bring home the bacon, a grand time was had by all. Apart from the official game, a number of friendly matches were arranged to the enjoyment of visitors and club members alike.

Japanese swimmers sweep the board

Sao Paulo, March 26.

The Japanese swimmers ended their exhibitions in Sao Paulo city today, winning the Brazilian championship's last event—the 400-metre freestyle relay.

While the Japanese swimmers won all events in which they participated, Sao Paulo won the championship with Rio de Janeiro in second place.

The Japanese relay team started with Murayama followed by Hamaguchi and Furushashi with Hamaguchi performing the last 100-metre distance. The Brazilians challenged the Japanese positions up to half-way but when Furushashi reached the 300-metre mark the Japanese had sufficient lead to insure victory.

Interviewed by the United Press after the final event, coach Yusa said he was pleased with his pupils' performances. He did not expect anything better. The rainy weather for four days preceding the debut handicapped the training schedule. Perhaps the swimmers might have done better if it had not rained so much.

Yusa was particularly pleased with Hamaguchi, who at present is doing better than last year.

Earlier in the 200-metre freestyle event Hamaguchi led the race completing the first 100 metres in 1:27.10, followed by Murayama in 1:27.10, followed by Hamaguchi in 1:27.10, followed by Murayama in 1:27.10.

Hamaguchi increased his lead while Murayama was endeavouring to shake off Okamoto. At 150 metres Hamaguchi was far ahead of Murayama while Okamoto was still fighting for second place.

While Hamaguchi won easily the 100-metre race, Murayama and Okamoto kept the crowd in suspense. In the last 20 metres Murayama snatched victory.

KCC BOWLS

The first round of the Kowloon Cricket Club Lawn Bowls Rink competition will be played on Sunday at 3 p.m.

It is proposed to run a Wapping show for those members not engaged in the competition. The Rinks will be drawn at 2.45 p.m. on the green.

CORRECTION

Due to an unavoidable error in the score book on Sunday it was reported in yesterday's "China Mail" that A. Hooton bowled 15 overs, three of which were maidens, and took three wickets for 48 runs in the Oxford versus Cambridge Annual Cricket Match.

A. Hooton did not bowl, and his bowling analysis should have been under his name of B. Hooton, who did the school bowling.

Arsenal cup eleven team of "old men"

London, March 26.

Arsenal, who entered the Football Association Cup final at Wembley on April 29 by beating Chelsea in the semi-final replay, must be one of the oldest teams to reach the final stage.

Only four of the Arsenal team, which beat Chelsea are under 30—Wally Barnes at left back, Freddie Cox, the right winger who scored the winning goal, Jimmy Logie, at inside right, and the "baby" of the team, Peter Goring, at centre forward.

The oldest member of the team is Leslie Compton, the elder brother of Denis Compton, who plays at outside left. Leslie will be 38 this year and he is run close by Joe Mercer, the captain, who is 36.

Assuming that Leslie Compton is fit and selected for centre-half—his choice can be taken for granted—his appearance at Wembley will be his third Cup final there for Arsenal, all three in different positions.

During the early war period when Service calls on their players forced Arsenal to experiment, Leslie played a number of games at centre-forward and after several notable scoring feats, including 10 out of 15 in a match against Clapton—now Leyton—Oriental he led the attack in the 1941 League War Cup final.

Of the team which represented Arsenal at Wembley, in that match, which they drew 1-1 with Preston North End, only the Compton brothers and Laurie Scott, the left back, are still playing for the club.

Two years later, Arsenal made their next appearance at the famous Stadium, where they beat Charlton Athletic 7-1 in the Football League South Cup final, the scorers being Reg Lewis, who still plays at inside left (4); Ted

Drake, who is now manager of Reading (2); and Denis Compton.

Arsenal's record

Leslie was at left back on that day. He did not become Arsenal's regular centre half until after the war, but so well is he performing that it is difficult to realise that he joined Arsenal as long ago as 1932.

Like his younger brother, Denis, Leslie has yet to gain a FA Cup winners' medal. Both were on the Arsenal staff in 1936, when the "Gunsners" last won the Cup, but neither commanded a regular first place.

Arsenal have probably set up a record by reaching the Cup final without playing out of their district of North London.

Previous years other clubs have been drawn at home in each of the early rounds but have travelled for the semi-final, which is played on a neutral ground.

Arsenal, however, came out of the hat in the semi-final draw with another London club, Chelsea, and the replay, as well as the first match, were both played at Tottenham Hotspur ground, which is only a few miles from Arsenal at Highbury.

Arsenal have also reached the final by winning their five matches on the journey by narrow margins. They beat Sheffield Wednesday 1-0, beat Swansea Town 1-0, beat Burnley 2-0, beat Leeds United 1-0, and beat Chelsea 1-0 in the semi-final replay after a 2-2 draw. —Reuter.